

Multicultural Connection Committee
Meeting
Wednesday, September 27, 2006

The meeting was called to order by Pedro Leite, Chair, at 1:00 p.m. in the Library Conference Room.

Members present: Hugh Irvin, Judy Dechant, Delton Gordon, Lindsey Boeckman, Yuki Narita, and Zusseth Hernandez, Chip Holub

Regrets: Saeed Khan, Greg Stephens, Bridgette Hurte, and Crystal, Davis.

Announcements:

- Pedro spoke about the Multicultural Pride Day which will be held on the KSU-M Campus on October 3, 2006 and to which we have been invited to attend. It is similar to our Junior and Senior Days that we hold on our campus but it specifically targets multicultural students.

Membership

- All slots on the committee have been filled with the exception of the fourth faculty position which will be eliminated if the drafted by-laws are approved.

By-Laws

- A copy of the updated by-laws draft was distributed to those attending. Pedro asked that all members review the draft. He will send out an e-mail next week asking members to vote yes, no, or yes with modifications.

Web site

- Pedro stated that the MCC web pages were on line—these include an opening page plus a committee member link, multicultural calendar link and diversity/multicultural links. He requested that members go to the website and review the color combinations used on the website. He also asked members to check on the membership link to make sure names and e-mail addresses were correct. Please provide feedback to him concerning these issues.

Fall events

- Pedro stated that October is National Diversity Awareness month. If anyone had an idea or speaker for this topic, please let him know. Pedro spoke on the Story Telling Workshop that will be held next week with Tim Tingle as the speaker. The actual workshop will be held on Monday, October 2 for all K-State at Salina faculty and staff. That same evening, a Storytelling Concert will be held at Indian Rock Park for everyone beginning at 7:00 p.m. Student Reps were asked to invite students to the Campus Storytelling Concert which will be held on Wednesday, October 4 from 9:30-10:20 a.m. in the College Center Conference Room. The first 100 students attending will receive a ticket to the free Native American Lunch held in the cafeteria from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

- November is Native American Indian Month. Pedro stated that he would contact Les Hannah for ideas; however, the Story Telling Workshop covered that topic.
- International Education Week will be held November 13-17. Pedro stated that he would be contacting the student reps for ideas. One idea would be to have several of the international students speak about their cultures during that week.
- The Taste of Cultures Tasting Fair is also held during November. Bridgette Hurte and Judy Dechant are co-chairing this event. Discussion followed as to what date would be the best to hold the event. It was suggested that it also be held during International Education Week possibly on that Friday to close out the week's activities.
- Pedro mentioned that in years past "Holiday Traditions from around the U.S. and the World" was celebrated in December. Pedro spoke with the Dean's office and they don't have anything planned at this time. Pedro stated that he has the Kansas Wesleyan singers volunteering to come to our campus and sing at a date and time to be announced.

Future Projects

- Pedro briefly spoke on two projects that Crystal Davis will be chairing—Martin Luther King Celebration and Black History month.

Other announcements

- Pedro stated that our multicultural committee has more activities planned than any of the other colleges on the KSU-Manhattan campus. We will be asked to provide some type of assessment to the Provost for these activities—is there a difference in student attitudes after they have attended these activities? If not, we will need to reconsider if that activity needs to continue. Pedro also asked the committee members if we should provide programs on religious diversity and sexual orientation or is this something that Student Life should provide. This was something members should be thinking about.
- The next meeting will be held Wednesday, October 25, 2006 at 1:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Dechant