



University Student Union
California State University, Northridge

**Diversity and Inclusion Committee
Minutes
Friday, March 9th, 2018, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm
Calabasas Room**

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Benkovic at 11:05pm

II. Roll Call

Present	Absent	Staff	Guest (s)
Frankie Benkovic	Evelyn Arnold (Excused)	Kingson Leung	Bhernard Tila
Jaleesa Herrington	Rocio Rivera-Murillo (Excused)	Freddie Sánchez	Stephanie Flores-Temix (12pm)
Michelle Olmedo-Torres			Dorey Chery (12pm)
Mictlantecuhtli Nunez			Sarina Loeb (12pm)
Matthew Contreras			Serena Hinton (12pm)

III. Approval of Agenda

M/S/P (M.Olmedo-Torres/M.Nunez) to approve the meeting agenda for March 9, 2018

Motion passed (4-0-0)

IV. Approval of Minutes - February 16th 2018

M/S/P (J. Herrington/ M. Contreras)

Motion Passed (4-0-0)

V. Chair's Report

Chair Benkovic asked that guest Tila introduce himself. Benkovic shared that guest Tila is a member of the USU Board of Directors and Chair of the Facilities & Commercial Services committee. He mentioned that the committee is currently having discussions regarding converting a gender specific restroom in the Sol Center to be gender inclusive.

He reminded the committee that over the next three meetings, the committee will be participating in site visits to other resource centers and that DREAM Center is now confirmed for April 27th.

He informed the committee that during the April 13th meeting, the committee would be voting on Committee Member of the Year and would have a discussion. Chair Benkovic stated that the committee was invited to participate in the End of Year Celebration hosted on May 4th.

Lastly, he mentioned that if students were interested in running for the BOD Elections, the elections filing date was approaching on Monday, March 12th and encourage members to participate.

VI. Action Items

VII. Discussion Items

A. Pride Center Site Visit + Conversation

Thought Starter questions were provided to each committee member. Chair Benkovic asked committee to ask questions and become informed about Pride Center.

Committee visited the Pride Center where the following was shared by the Pride Center staff:

- The Pride Center has a Peer Mentorship Program
- Group Meetings are held various times throughout the week:
 - Queer and Trans People of Color (QTPOC)
 - T-Time
 - Coffee Nights
 - Once a month Deaf Queer Coffee Night
- Sex week is taking place soon
 - Focuses on Body Positivity and Sexual Health Awareness
- Pride Center conducts outreach and education presentations
- The Pride Center has a lounge space for people to connect
- Media Library
 - Books are mostly donated –the staff ask students for books that they want
- There are two entrances in the Pride Center
 - There is no secret entrance but one is more discrete than the other in case a student isn't comfortable coming in through the main door
 - Previous location didn't have access other than the front door
- All staff help out with programs, there are two events assistants
- The Pride Center has intersectional program –including Changing Same which focuses on the LGBTQ intersectional identify of students
- Peek-hours are 10am –noon Monday – Thursday and when the Pride Center is hosting evening events

What are the most useful resources in the Pride Center?

- Condoms: Latex Condoms/ lube – some are donated
- Dental dams – students ask specifically for these and are often needing to be replenished
- There are limited number of latex free condoms and internal condoms (Female condoms)

What are some concerns with accessibility?

- Students often bring up having gender inclusive restrooms closer to the Pride Center
- The closest restrooms are behind the Northridge Center & Oasis but they are not as feasible because you'll either have to wait to use them or go out of their way to use the restroom
- The Pride Center reorganized the way the couches were placed and now they are like a U-shape in order for deaf students to be able to communicate with one another, it was a suggestion that came out of Deaf Queer Coffee Night. This set-up is more inclusive and works on building community

How do you track usage?

- There is no formal tracking system – the Pride Center tracks how many people are in the space during a specific time
- The Pride Center has a needs assessment and is working with the USU Assessment team to finalize survey to engage students on how they can best support them

Other Items

- The Tanni Block Memorial LGBTQ Scholarship closes soon and was created to support LGBTQ Students who provide leadership to the LGBTQ community. It was created to honor Tanni Block who was an active member of LGBTQA (now Queer Collective). The Scholarship is for \$1,250 and the Pride Center encourages everyone to apply

Committee went back to Calabasas Room to speak with Pride Center Students and Staff (See enclosed notes on Pride Center Reflection)

B. Co-Sponsorship Policy

- i. The co-sponsorship policy was tabled to next meeting. Discussion with Pride Center Team ran longer than anticipated

C. Student Union Comparison Guidelines

- i. Committee determined which campus they would review (Miclan: Florida, Michelle: CSUF, Matthew: UCLA, Jaleesa: Houston, Evelyn/Rocio: SFSU)
- ii. Will review campuses with committee next meeting
 - a. There is no template on what committee members should be looking for just look for the following: What do we do? What are the other student unions doing?
 - b. Final Report will be due on April 27th - Chair Benkovic discussed that he will share official guidelines before the April meeting.
- iii. The goal is for this project to be completed by May in order to be able to present during the last BOD Meeting.

VIII. Announcements

- A. Mark Lopez will be presenting during Humanities Day of Service- stop by if you have time!
- B. Queer Spring Concert on March 16th
- C. Facilities & Commercial Services meeting will be held on Monday, March 12th from 4-6pm and will be discussing Gender Inclusive Restrooms –stop by if you have time

IX. Adjournment

Chair Benkovic Adjourned meeting at 1:04pm.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Freddie Sánchez
Executive Secretary