



University Student Union
California State University, Northridge

Diversity and Inclusion Committee Agenda
Monday, November 5th, 2018, 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Executive Board Room
MINUTES

I. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the USU Board of Directors – Diversity and Inclusion Committee was called to order at 5:15 pm by Chair Frankie Benkovic.

II. Roll Call

Present	Absent	Staff	Guests
Frankie Benkovic	Ruben Ramos	Freddie Sanchez	
Raquel Cetz Tamayo	Stephanie Flores Temix	Augie Garibay	
Stephanie Barboza			
Melanie Alvarez Rojas			
Jessica Aceves			
Kelly de Leon			
Dawn Joves			
Jaleesa Herrington			

III. Approval of Agenda

M/S/P (J. Herrington/D. Joves) Motion to approve the agenda for November 5, 2018.

Motion passed 7-0-0

IV. Approval of Minutes – 10/22/18

M/S/P (D. Joves/K. de Leon) Motion to approve the minutes for October 22, 2018.

Motion passed 7-0-0

V. Open Forum

A. Garibay acknowledged the “Remembering Quinten and Resisting Violence” event that took place earlier in the afternoon and requested a moment of silence in honor of Quinten Thomas and those who have passed in the hands of law enforcement.

VI. Chair’s Report

Chair Benkovic opened the floor for committee members to share their feelings and thoughts. Concerning attendance, he would like to know in advance via text if something comes up. There are no larger updates from the Board of Directors.

VII. Vice Chair’s Report

Co-Chair Cetz Tamayo mentioned that there is a lot of heavy stuff. We should give ourselves the time to process. Reflecting on the remarks from the event earlier this afternoon, she mentioned that there are a lot of male Black bodies are being lost and being criminalized. She thinks about the immigrant community and those children who have lost their lives.

VIII. Action Items

N/A

IX. Discussion Items

A. Icebreaker/Team Building Activity

Chair Benkovic skipped this item.

B. Diversity and Inclusion Committee Goals

Chair Benkovic reviewed the previous academic year’s goals: researching other student unions, visiting the centers in the USU, and reviewing policy. Current academic year goals will include supporting the cross cultural center initiative, supporting undocumented students with employment, speaking with our constituents and centers and see how we can support them. Gender inclusive restroom in the USU will be a two-stall restroom with construction to begin over the Winter break. Dream Center expansion has been completed.

J. Herrington recommended that we push for a grant for ASL interpreters to be provided for activities within the USU (non-academic activities) or an in-house interpreter.

Co-Chair Cetz Tamayo asked the committee to consider what other things are lacking.

D. Joves recommended making all the restrooms in the USU gender inclusive.

M. Alvarez Rojas recommends that we consider safer locations for gender inclusive restrooms.

F. Sanchez introduced the topic of lactation spaces, which may come up through Facilities Committee.

M. Alvarez Rojas recommends informing students at-large of opportunities for priority registration.

D. Joves inquired regarding legal assistance for students. Co-Chair Cetz Tamayo commented on the current offerings via Associated Students.

S. Barboza recommended adding formerly incarcerated students to the BOD goal for assisting undocumented students with employment in the USU, while working with Revolutionary Scholars.

D. Joves inquired regarding whether the public can access services in the USU.

K. de Leon inquired if there is a question that students have to answer regarding their status if they were formerly incarcerated and if there were job opportunities.

S. Barboza inquired regarding the VITA Clinic and whether we can provide a legal clinic accessible to the entire community here in the USU. Co-Chair Cetz Tamayo clarified that VITA is a national program receiving funding through the Nazarian College.

D. Joves inquired regarding the use of student union spaces and making events accessible to the students through a usage policy.

Co-Chair Cetz Tamayo recommended we look into access to research for undocumented or formerly incarcerated folx, and any others who have been neglected.

K. de Leon recommended the Pride Center provide opportunities for research (e.g. research symposium). Chair Benkovic expanded to include the Veterans Resource Center.

J. Herrington suggested conducting a needs assessment survey to find more information regarding demographics of the populations served by the USU.

Respond to the email regarding the USU survey.

Co-Chair Cetz Tamayo recommended the USU look into ways to better serve the homeless student population. K. de Leon recommended the Oasis remain open late for students to sleep (e.g. close to midnight).

M. Alvarez Rojas recommended more affordable food options, housing for low-income or homeless student population.

D. Joves recommended extending the CSUN Food Pantry beyond their current hours. Pop-up Pantry was made possible through a \$10,000 donation from the USU.

J. Herrington recommended the USU provide a space for commuters.

X. Announcements

CAUSA will be taking donations for the refugee caravan next week until the end of the semester, and again in the Spring semester, at the AISA/Central American House. Items donated will be given to Border Angels and Art for Change.

Pride Center will be hosting Trans Empowerment Week including a clothing drive. Events take place on the 13th through the 20th.

Veterans Resource Center is hosting We Heart Our Veterans Week.

Complete the USU survey and spread the word to your friends.

Vote!

XI. Adjournment

**denotes attachment*

***denotes hand-outs at meeting*