

FLITE Diversity Committee meeting minutes

Monday, August 20, 2012

Present: Fran Rosen, Mari Kermit-Canfield, Emily Mitchell, Randall Schroeder

- I. Membership
 - a. Mari and Emily are due to cycle off the committee.
 - b. Mari and Randall will talk to the dean about appointing members to fill holes on the Diversity Committee.
- II. Gender-neutral bathrooms
 - a. Randall suggested that some of FLITE's bathrooms could be made gender neutral.
 - i. The lower-level bathrooms are the most likely candidates, but the 1st-floor vending-room bathrooms and the 4th-floor bathrooms that aren't in the elevator corridor might also be options.
 - b. It was suggested that this is probably a topic that will need to be discussed with FLITE faculty and staff, and all of FLITE's building partners.
 - c. Randall will talk to the dean about this, with the committee's endorsement of the idea.
- III. Safe Zone Training
 - a. Randall would like to find out if FLITE could host Safe Zone training.
 - i. All FLITE faculty and staff would be encouraged to attend.
 - ii. Non-FLITE faculty and staff could come too.
 - b. Mari is going to find out what group is in charge of Safe Zone training.
- IV. Inclusion Council
 - a. Fran reported that David Pilgrim is talking about dissolving the Ferris Inclusion Council.
 - b. If this happens, David Pilgrim is planning to meet more regularly with all the college/division diversity groups, instead.
- V. Beyond: A Silk Road Journey (see Appendix A for proposal)
 - a. The event is on October 7, 2012.
 - b. The committee agreed that Fran's proposal sounded like a good idea.
 - i. Fran will tell Tracy Busch that she can have the library display case for this project.
 - ii. A group of librarians will put together a resource guide examining the Silk Road from different disciplinary perspectives.
 - c. Fran is going to talk to Tracy Busch about setting up a time when Tracy could talk to the committee about what she is doing and how the library can help.

Appendix A

Library involvement with Beyond: A Silk Road Journey

Beyond: A Silk Road Journey “offers a cross-cultural and interdisciplinary approach to understanding how major world civilizations have influenced each other over time. We aspire to make sense of today’s interconnected world through the prism of the ancient silk road.”

A broad array of faculty will be including the Silk Road as a course topic. There is a Blackboard Learn site that will be used throughout the range of activities related to this event.

Tracy Busch is coordinating this event and is seeking library involvement. She talked to me about it since it has a Gen Ed focus. She’s added me as an Instructor to the Blackboard site, and she wrote:

I'd like to get you involved at this stage, anyway, so that we can have instructional librarians at the forefront of the site for students/professors who are doing/assigning research projects related to the Silk Road.

Tracy teaches history so she would work with Paul for content directly related to her own courses.

In addition, Tracy mentioned to me today that she is hoping for a library display. She said the first floor display cases are all reserved, so we’d have to use the library display case, or we could use space at the desks or on the top of the new book shelves.

I would like to propose that working with Beyond: A Silk Road Journey be one of the activities of the FLITE Diversity Team for 2012-2013. This could include (a) creating resource content on the Blackboard Learn site; (b) creating a LibGuide; (c) choosing and purchasing some resources (probably books); (d) working on a display, (e) etc.