

MINUTES

Equity & Diversity Committee



11:00am 10 January 2019

Attendance

Present

Bre Shanahan (Chair) (BS)
Conrad Hogg (CH)
Brianna Yarran (BY)
Martha McKinley (MM)
Saskia Mason (SM)
Nery Contti Neto (NCN)
Pu Xuan Wu (PXW)
Michael Anderson (MA)
Lauren Espinoza (LE)
Jenny Ophel (JO)

Apologies

Tony Goodman (TG)

1. Welcome and Opening

BS acknowledged that UWA is situated on Nyoongar land. BS paid her respects to Nyoongar elders past, present and future.

BS welcomed all attendees and accepted apologies.

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

N/A

3. Business Completed Via Circular

Nil

4. Committee Business

4.1. Timing of 2019 Meetings – At this stage (until timetables are released), Committee agreed to meet on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 11:00am.

4.2. Additional Committee members to be co-opted – Committee agreed to extend standing invitations to Access and Ethnocultural Collective.

Action: BS to extend the invitation.

4.3. Committee focus for 2019:

4.3.1. Discussion concentrated on the Women's Department's Safer Spaces Policy and how it can be adapted for other Departments/Collectives. Positive feedback received in terms of the content in the policy.

Action: Committee members to discuss the proposed policy with their individual departments/collectives to ascertain how it can be adapted for their requirements.

4.3.2. MA advised Access were working with Student Assist on a list of preferred terms. MM would like to see this expanded to other Departments.

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4.4. Engaging students with disabilities in student leadership roles – MA raised the issue of students with disabilities not necessarily taking on leadership roles within Clubs and Departments and sought suggestions on how individuals can be engaged and supported in these roles. Initial suggestions included:

- Having shared positions where possible
- Set expectations (to be included in Student Leadership Training)
- Implement a structure of approved leave
- Have an Officer ready to step up if required (appoint a deputy to certain roles)
- Provide the ability to Skype into meetings if required
- Educate current student leaders on what is possible

Action: MA and LE will meet with Liam from Events to discuss further (from a Student Leadership Training perspective) and will report back at next E&D meeting.

4.5. Indigenous Strategy – BY tabled the Indigenous strategy that was developed by Megan and Jayne last year. MM suggested including an indication of support available, especially concerning study and disability support.

Action: Committee endorsed strategy

5. Other Business

5.1. Suggestion raised to conduct a counselling services survey. CH advised this has already been done and a push to implement changes in progress. MA advised the Headspace/NUS survey data has been released but concerns raised over whether the timeframes included triage. CH acknowledge the need to look at efficiencies across UWA and Guild departments (Student Assist for example).

5.2. BS would like to again undertake the Bathroom Audit. This has been attempted several times by past E&D Committees but has not been finalised. Of particular concern is the so-called Gender Neutral bathrooms.

Action: BS to review process to undertake Bathroom Audit

5.3. MA advised Access will be flagging a motion at next Council meeting around promotion/availability of alcohol at mental health focused events.

5.4. CH would like the Committee to potentially develop an Inclusion and Diversity policy and update the Events Diversity Guide.

Action: PXW to lead this initiative

5.5. CH suggested a guide for Acknowledgement of Country be developed.

Action: BY to lead this initiative

6. Next Meeting

11:00am, 12 February 2019

Meeting closed at 11.42am