

**GLENDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
MULTICULTURAL & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
November 14, 2019 / 12:30pm-1:30pm
SM267**

The Multicultural & Community Engagement Committee Meeting was called to order 12:30 p.m. with Tzoler Oukayan chairing.

Present: Becka Cooling (Senate); Sarah Mecheneau (Guild); Nancy Meina (Joint Faculty); Rachel Ridgway (Joint Faculty); Nane Kakosian (CSEA); Patrik Namagardi (CSEA); Tina Andersen-Wahlberg (Administrator); Tzoler Oukayan (Administrator - Chair); Vanessa Angeles (ASGCC); Alyssa Aldaz (ASGCC);

Absent: none

Guest: Anthony Garcia

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 10, 2019

It was MSC (Patrik Namagardi / Nancy Medina) that the minutes of October 10, 2019 be approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Intersegmental Partnerships

- Form a group to bring more community engagement to GCC campus / building a curriculum / making it a part of GCC culture
- Present Service Learning during division and faculty meeting (show Data)
- Offer Service Learning Workshops; include student panel; offer FLEX

Estudiantes Unidso Project

- The group is coordinating a “Dia Familiar en GCC” a Family day at GCC for the Latenx community.
- The event will intel guest speakers; activities; workshops; lunch, prizes...
- It is scheduled for Saturday, April 25, 2020 in the Student Center.

UPDATES

Giving Thanks Event

- Monday, November 25th between 12 – 2pm MCEC will give out goodie bags filled with snacks and promotional items to all students in collaboration with Student Equity.

DREAM Workshops/Events

Dream Resource Center Fall 2019 Report

Event	Date	Description	Approx. # of students
Welcome Day	Sep. 11	Open house events where we served ice cream to new and returning AB 540. Students came in and talked to the DRC counselor and student workers and learned about the different resources provided by the DRC.	20
Know Your Rights	Sep. 25	Workshop in which a representative from the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights, Los Angeles (CHIRLA) came to talk to faculty, staff, and students about the rights that everyone has regardless of immigration status. Attendees were also given updates on the Supreme Court hearings that will be happening November 12 on the future of DACA.	30
DACA Banner Drop	Oct. 9	Students from the on-campus AB 540 and ally club, V.O.I.C.E.S, designed and decorated a banner in support of the #SAVE DACA campaign that CHIRLA's California Dream Network (CDN). Together with 50 other college campuses around California, the students will drop a banner in a visible area on campus to signal the start of the campaign as well bring awareness to the campaign.	10
Week of Action	Oct.14-17	Week of Action is a designated week where all community colleges in California bring awareness to the achievements and struggle of AB 540 students. There are different events for each day of the week. Monday: The week starts off with a DACA panel, where DACA-mented alumni will talk about their achievements and struggles. Tuesday: There is a spoken word events where AB 540 students and allies will share their thoughts, feelings and experiences of living through these times. Wednesday: There will be a CA Dream Act workshop to help AB 540 students apply for financial aid. Thursday: There will be another Know Your Rights workshop to inform the community about their rights.	100

Pride Center Workshops / Events Fall 2019

- Pride Center Open House
- Welcome Day tabling
- The ABC's of LGBTQ+
- Crossroads of privilege and oppression
- Classroom presentations for sociology, psychology, and EMT professors
- Students have been coming in talking about classes, majors, transfer, mental health, and careers. The consultant has been having conversations about these topics with the students and referring them accordingly.
- Let's Chat Series: the consultant facilitates and leads a student discussion group on topics that impact the LGBTQ+ community.
- Workshop for Ambassador Training for the Welcome Center
- Designed and ordered promotional items such as shirts and hats.
- Workshop on Healthy Masculinity
- Workshops on Bystander Intervention: Upstand to assault and violence
- Movie and Discussion
- Planned Parenthood presentation
- Inclusive Sex Education Jeopardy
- National Coming Out Day: Celebration of diverse genders, sexualities, and body positivity

- EMT Edition: The ABC's of LGBTQ+
- Tutors' Edition: The ABC's of LGBTQ+
- Affirmative Consent
- Home for the Holidays: Thanksgiving Luncheon: Navigating family gatherings as an LGBTQ+ person (Communication style, how to manage positive and negative comments from family regarding your identity, how to self-regulate and self-care, acknowledge and accept where family is in their process, compassion training and self-acceptance).
- Safe Zone level I training.
- Created a survey to assess LGBTQ+ student and ally needs.
- Collecting and analyzing the survey data as it comes in.
- Providing a safe space for students to reveal challenges such as familial rejection, homelessness, harassment, and invalidating experiences with staff and other students. The consultant listened, validated, and provided referrals.

The Pride Center continues to work on:

- Continuing outreach efforts to establish a listserv of students and staff that identify themselves as allies. With consent from staff, a list of LGBT-friendly staff is posted on Pride Center site.
- The consultant continues to collaborate with silos both on and off campus to create, promote, and plan for workshops and social gatherings for the fall semester.
- The consultant continues to lead weekly group meetings and leadership development training for Peer Educators (student workers) and oversees their tasks.
- The consultant trains Peer Educators to navigate conversations with audiences that might be resistant to learning about LGBTQ+ identities.
- The consultant talks to Peer Educators about practicing compassion and self-regulation when confronted with hate speech, homophobia, and transphobia.
- The consultant talks to Peer Educators about active listening, validating, and referring.
- Students who are LGBTQ+ have been feeling safe in utilizing the Pride Center as a study space and as a place to meet like-minded others.
- The consultant is continuing to develop the Pride Center webpage for students seeking resources, LGBT-friendly colleges, scholarships, and more.
- Students continue coming to the Pride Center to talk about challenges that come along with an LGBTQ+ identity that include:
 - staff refusal to acknowledge preferred names and pronouns
 - harassment from other students regarding their gender expression and sexual identity
 - students report that some professors make condescending remarks such as "Back in my day, men were men and women were women." Such remarks are discriminatory and damaging to students that identify as LGBTQ+ and create an unsafe environment.

NOTE:

- Classroom presentations where students are mandated to attend reveals a more misinformed audience. Students appear to inadvertently make transphobic and homophobic comments. Please see some of my documentation below:
 - "Why do we need to learn about gays and trannys?" [tutors pres]
 - "What if this [EMT pres] is against my beliefs?"

- “Isn’t this [ABC’s Presentation] dangerous to present to teenagers? Don’t you believe that being gay is a phase?”
- “So, I agree with people being gay or a lesbian but what does it mean when people say they’re not a guy or girl?”
- A staff member expressed to me, “Bisexual people need to just choose a team and stop being in denial about being gay.” I expressed that just as there are misconceptions about being gay, there are misconceptions about being bisexual. I further elaborated that bisexual people are not confused but rather can feel romantic and/or sexual attraction to more than one gender, typically towards males and females.
- Students who have been coming to the Pride Center have shared:
 - “I don’t want to have to come out each time I have to see a counselor”
 - “When I went to mental health services on campus, I saw a cross, and immediately shut down...I knew I couldn’t talk about being gay.”
 - “A counselor for LGBTQ+ students would understand the issues that queer students have...I wouldn’t have to explain myself to them.”
 - Professors making comments such as “I will not call you by any other name other than what’s on the roster.”
 - As of now, students have shared such comments from a professor of humanities and another of mathematics.
 - “I know that a counselor for LGBTQ+ students would be on my side and care about my future. They would get why it’s hard being gay.”

NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, April 16, 2020

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Tzoler Oukayan at 1:05 pm

Minutes recorded by:

Nane Kakosian, Student Services Program Coordinator
Office of Multicultural & Community Engagement Center