

Diversity and Inclusion Committee 20232024  
0 H H W 3 L M D n l t e s x

Date: January 19, 2024 @ 9:00 AM  
Location: Virtual Meeting -Microsoft Teams  
Chair: Larry Israel  
Recorder: Simone Phipps

Present: Larry Israel, Simone Phipps, Jenia Bacot, Charla Baker, Rhonda Crombie, Rebekah  
Hazlett, Knudsen, Sharon Mozley, Standridge, Jonathan Cannon

Absent: James Blackburn, Amber Johnston, Kemarie Jeffers, Lauren Gray, Allen Chastain,  
Ashley Thompson, Andre Nicholson

Call to order: Larry Israel called the meeting to order at 9:03 am.

1. Agenda Approval: Charla Baker moved to approve the agenda, Sharon Mozley Standridge seconded, and the motion passed (All).
2. New Business:

committee name. He also suggested not using the “D” word on the nomination form but being explicit in the language used about the communities served, and the award was to reflect service to and promotion of these communities. Simone Phipps mentioned the idea sounded great in theory but may be challenging in practice as some communities may be unintentionally omitted from the form, causing offense.

Jenia Bacote noted that seemingly everyone had questions so there may be a need to return to the Provost’s office and ask if changes needed to be made, what changes exactly, and why.

Jonathan Cannon moved to postpone the matter to hear about consequences from the Provost’s office. Sharon MozleyStandridge seconded the motion, and the motion passed (All).

b. Committee Name Change

As aforementioned based on consultation with the Provost’s office and attention to what’s happening in the state of Georgia, a committee name change to “Campus Culture and Community Committee” was coined by Larry Israel and Jenia Bacote. Larry Israel also mentioned it in conversation with Andre Nicholson, who agreed.

Rebekah HazlettKnudsen moved to discuss committee name alignment with institutional shifts and Rhonda Crombie seconded the motion. The motion passed (All).

Rebekah HazlettKnudsen explained her disagreement with the name change noting it was nebulous in nature. She mentioned the change facilitated a move away from actions that should reflect attention to and addressing inequity. She clarified that she had no problem with “culture” but the term was too generic.

Rhonda Crombie asked why a change would be needed to the word “diversity.” Rebekah HazlettKnudsen stated that the term “diversity” is often viewed as threatening as it points to the need for representation, equity, and inclusion.

Sharon MozleyStandridge moved to postpone the committee name change until more definite information was obtained from the Provost’s office, Jonathan Cannon seconded the motion, and the motion passed (All).

Adjournment: Sharon MozleyStandridge moved to adjourn the meeting, and Rebekah HazlettKnudsen seconded the motion. The motion passed (All). Meeting was adjourned at 9:35 am. x x