

Meeting Minutes September 2024

Diversity and Internationalization Committee

Date: September 13th 2024 @ 12:30 to 1:30 pm

Chairperson: Su Jara-Pazmino, Ph.D. -

(send to Sonya Adams sadams@westga.edu CC: Laura Wolf lwolfe@westga.edu)

Date of Minutes Approval: by September 20th, 2024

Sennators	College	Approval
Su Jara-Pazmino	COE	SJP
Julie Talbot	CMCS	JT
OPEN		
<i>Representatives</i>		
Talia Weiner	CHASS	TRW
OPEN	LIBR	
Quetina Howell	THSSON	QLH
Rebecca Bowman	COE	RCB
Susana Velez-Castrillon	RCOB	SVC
LeQuinta (Taylor) Bryant	SCFM	
Md Shirajum Munir	CMCS	
Bonnie Jett	University College	BEJ
<i>Administrators</i>		
Ralitsa Akins	Vice-Provost	
	University General Council	
	International Student Admissions	
<i>Student</i>	SGA	
OPEN		

The chair person Su Jara-Pazmino introduced herself and stated and took attendance. The meeting was started with a quick review of the purpose of the committee and the request for volunteers for the following:

- One member of the committee will represent Faculty Senate on the Education Abroad Advisory Council. Contact Dr. Anne Gaquere agaquere@westga.edu
Susana Velez-Castrillon will represent Faculty Senate
- It is also recommended that a member of this committee serve on other related committees across campus, e.g. Presidential Committee on Campus Inclusion.
Nobody volunteered to serve on these committees.
- Seek volunteers for our taskforces to investigate the issues and suggest appropriate policy changes.
 - Taskforce 1: Workload and service burden.
 - **Taskforce 2: Academic integrity and artificial intelligence.**
 - **Munir will serve on taskforce #2.**


6. New Business


- Presentations by committee members and each one presented the following proposals, recalling from last year's committee or suggestions.
- Introduction of new topics or proposals
 - Diversity is needed – big focus in some departments (Julie)
 - Connect with diversity committees from each unit, get an update on current work and best practices, and opportunities to join efforts. (Su)
 - Update on if survey was sent to faculty – request legal review (Ralitsa)
 - Recruiting international faculty/students and engagement (Munir)
 - Mental health and neurodiversity activisms. (Talia)
 - Protections from service work and how it falls along race and gender lines (Talia)
 - IFE – mentorship new teachers may be extended to other needs (Susana)
 - Disability, neurodiversity, inclusion, how to inform faculty about this (Susana)
- New agenda items – prepare update on the following
 - **Su - Updates from last year's committee work.**
 - **Su - Find out if the Survey to faculty was sent out or where does it stand?**
 - **Su - Connect with IFE to learn more about the mentorship program.**
 - **Everyone - Collect information from our own department's diversity committee to find out what work they are doing or what best practices they might be implementing.**
 - **Everyone - Reflect on our suggestions to propose possible ways to act on it.**


7. Special Announcements or Updates

- The Student Activity Council is organizing a Hispanic Heritage Month Night Market!



 Date: September 16, 2024

 Time: 7 - 9 PM

 Location: Upper Love Valley/Grassy Triangle

Explore local vendors, enjoy authentic food, live music, and cultural performances!

Don't miss this night filled with culture, flavors, and fun!



9. Future Meeting Schedule

- Zoom, one week after senate meeting @ 12:30 to 1:30
- Next meeting Oct 18, save the date for Nov 15, Dec 13 (if needed)

10. Adjournment