

**SAH Diversity Committee  
Minutes**

February 26, 2004

**Present:** Ken Davis - Chair  
Pat Hargrave  
Karen Haring  
Irina Smirnova - Secretary  
**Absent:** Paul Mathews - excused  
**Guests:** Natalie Sykes, Student Representative

**Call to order:** Ken called the meeting to order at 12:05 PM.

**I. Approval of Minutes**

Minutes from January 27, 2004, approved as presented.

**II. Report from Steering Committee**

At the last steering committee meeting Ken reported about combined Diversity Committee and Professional Development Committee activity, a presentation on Cultural Competency for SAH faculty.

**III. Old Business**

**Updates on Committee goals for the year**

**A. Website management / Collaboration with SAH Professional Development Committee**

Ken informed that Denise Gobert, Chair of Professional Development Committee, have delivered information regarding both committees combined activity to her Committee members, and they approved this combined initiative. Pat expressed her point of view on the Cultural Competency presentation at the SON faculty retreat in January. Ken informed that he talked to the SAH Dean regarding this presentation to the SAH faculty, and it was decided to plan this activity for the fall of 2004 SAH faculty retreat. This time this presentation will be aimed for faculty development but not students.

**B. Multicultural Student Recruitment**

Pat will attend next Multicultural Student Recruitment Group on Lawrence campus on March 11, 10:30 AM, and will contact Sarah Keenan for shared ride. Karen initially planned to go but she will not be available (has oral exam). Ken informed that Sarah Keenan had attended two local career events sponsored by the Multicultural Student Recruitment Office and she had also e-mailed departmental chairpersons regarding an upcoming career fair on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, sponsored by Avila College, so they could send their department representatives. Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Sciences is planning to send a representative.

**C. HPPI involvement**

Scheduled presentations at the JS Chick Elementary School have been completed. Natalie, Karen and Ken shared their own experience, generally, very positive. Ken informed that at the end of the year all presenters will be invited to soul lunch. Irina asked about a feedback regarding presentations. Ken will solicit a response from teachers and Nedra Bonds. It was concluded that this year the HPPI presentations were a big success.

**D. Diversity Advisory Council – Strategic Plan**

There were no DAC meetings.

**E. SAH Student Advisory Board**

Ken received no response to his e-mail to students. He suggested taking more concerted effort, not to be restricted to SAH, but involve entire Medical Center students. A concern was expressed regarding having sufficient input from minority students into Diversity Committee activities and whether the Committee is answering their needs. Natalie suggested organizing lunch for students in order to gather them for a discussion. Karen suggested to take existing student group and built on it rather than creating a new group.

Ken will bring to Steering Committee's attention a suggestion to add student representatives to some committees, perhaps on an ad-hoc basis, and have this issue to be reflected in SAH by-laws. Some committees were mentioned including Research, Professional Development and Diversity Committees. Ken recommended for Diversity Committee to have a regular student representative, anyway. Committee members agreed with this.

**IV. New Business**

Natalie was nominated by Irina for 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Student Diversity Award. Natalie asked Ken, Irina and Lisa Stehno-Bittel for letters of recommendations.

Ken informed committee members that Irina agreed to be nominated for election to the Diversity Committee for the next term.

Ken concluded that the Committee completed its agenda for this year, and there is no need in further meetings this semester.

Next meeting will take place in June. If anything comes up Ken will let Committee members by e-mail.

Ken will write annual committee report.

**Adjournment:** Ken adjourned the meeting at 12: 40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Irina V. Smirnova  
Secretary