

Auburn Hills Campus Community Assembly  
Thursday, February 18, 2016 – 3:15pm-4:15pm, F120  
Minutes

Campus Dean Lori Przymusinski facilitated the meeting with 18 faculty and staff in attendance.

Agenda – Textbook Pricing for Students was moved to the top of the agenda to accommodate H. Renton’s schedule.

1. Textbook Pricing for Students

This topic was brought up at a recent Board meeting by a group of students and non-students and has been discussed subsequently at College Academic Senate as well. Heidi Renton showed a 10-slide PowerPoint version of the presentation given to the Board and College Academic Senate that provides an overview of the textbook pricing issue. She noted that the Bookstore is owned and operated by OCC, and that our pricing is competitive and transparent for students.

The presentation explains what goes into the pricing process, outlines the options the Bookstore has pursued to make textbooks as affordable as possible for students, lists additional steps we can take to further reduce costs and describes innovative cost-cutting approaches being piloted elsewhere that may be available here in the future. *(The slide presentation is viewable at InfoMart/Committees/Academic Senate/AS Documents/AS Handouts/1-28-2016.)*

2. Campus Conversations – (Employee Meetings with the President)

Lori reminded everyone that the president values employee input and asks that all try to attend a session and encourage others to do so. Interested employees may call the President’s Office to sign up for one of the currently scheduled sessions:

F	February 26	10:30am-noon
W	March 9	2:15-3:45pm
Th	March 24	10:00-11:30am

3. Employee Diversity Training

Social Science faculty member Michelle Samtouni addressed the group regarding the importance of continual diversity training for all employees and the College’s need to reinstate a training program now that the Professional Development Training Center (PDTTC) no longer exists. Providing diversity training contributes to retention of students and employees and supports accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission.

Lori said she has dealt with a half dozen issues over the past year that point to the need for ongoing diversity training for faculty and staff. She advised anyone who encounters such issues to contact her, Michelle Samtouni or Marikay Clancy for assistance. Michelle created

and teaches a diversity class, and all three of them are members of the College Committee for Diversity and Inclusion;

Regarding the re-establishment of diversity training and objectives at OCC:

- Lori has been working with a group to study actions the College can take to respond to the Clery Act. As a result, the College will be launching a mandatory on-line training for employees that will be provided by an external group and will include a small amount of diversity training. Although this is not the answer to fulfilling the diversity training need, it is a start.
- The suggestion was made that CCDI consider presenting a proposal to Chancellor's Cabinet to establish a replacement for PDTC to make diversity and other training available to employees.
- Assistant Vice Chancellor Tim Sherwood, CCDI's liaison to Chancellor's Cabinet, has been charged with implementing full-scale operation of the S.A.F.E.-On-Campus program for LGBTQ students and their allies, formerly coordinated by Arlene Frank who resigned from the College on 12/31/15. A CCDI subcommittee has been formed to fulfill that charge and have the program underway by fall 2016.

### **Announcements**

- Odor in F Building – A vendor has been on site all week working to rectify the problem. Adjustments have been made to keep the odor down, but that made the building overly warm. A solution is expected by Monday, 2/21.
- Meeting Scheduled for Northern Oakland County High School Counselors – A meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 25, to try to reach this geographical area whose counselors were not among those who attended a similar meeting at the Orchard Ridge Campus last fall. The hope is that we can reconnect with high school counselors now that we no longer have the recruiters we had in the past. Those who would like to attend may do so by contacting Betty Green.

### **Community Comments/Concerns**

#### **1. Timely Notification**

A request was made for alerts and outcomes concerning health and safety-related incidents to be sent immediately to everyone at the campus to keep people informed about what is happening here and to address concerns and fears. Examples cited were the odor in F Building and recently circulated rumors about an actual incident in which a student made a threat in a classroom.

In the latter incident it was thought that Public Safety's response when questioned was too casual: they had removed the student, investigated the incident, assessed it to be not serious and dealt with it appropriately and swiftly.

A Public Safety representative was not in attendance at this meeting to respond. Lori will discuss the matter with Dr. Taylor and recommend that Director Terry McCauley come to the next Community Assembly to address the concern.

Next Meeting: March 17, 2016, 3:15 pm-4:15 pm, AH:F120

Submitted by Betty Green