



## FACCC BIPOC Committee Meeting Notes

April 12, 2024  
12:30 – 1:30 pm

Attending: Robin Daniels, Maria Estrada, Rocio Diaz, Francis Howard, Nicky Gonzalez Yuen and Natalina Monteiro

Absent: Thomas Carrasco

Staff: Herlim Li

### Action Items

All committee members present will follow up by contacting their respective liaison committees to request that each committee implement at least one anti-racist goal/action in the coming year.

Nicky will draft a joint BIPOC committee letter to be presented to each FACCC committee as well as to the FACCC Board of Governors and Executive Committee outlining this request and stating the rationale for the committee's request. Francis, Desiree and Natalina agreed to help with editing. Nicky will share out with google doc.

Natalina agreed to follow up with Thomas Carrasco to fill him in on what we did in the meeting and to request that he reach out to the Policy Committee as the BIPOC committee liaison for our committee work plan.

### Overview

- Nicky highlighted the DEI statement as key for incorporating anti-racism into FACCC's operations with empowerment strategies.
- The committee worked using the Google Jamboard tool which, sadly, will be phased out by October; a reminder to search for new collaboration platforms.
- Most committee members plan to continue with the BIPOC committee, but Maria is also considering the Counseling committee.

### Mindfulness Exercise

- Nicky played a 4-minute mindfulness exercise to help participants become present at the start of the meeting.
- The exercise was meant to help members arrive mentally, find a grounded and balanced posture, notice sensations in their body, take deeper breaths, and set their intention for the meeting.

## **Jamboard Activity:**

[https://jamboard.google.com/d/1iG1fvTwjJCU\\_rKm-o5B2rW46FaF0VeDGHVhXRaK4d7c/edit?usp=sharing](https://jamboard.google.com/d/1iG1fvTwjJCU_rKm-o5B2rW46FaF0VeDGHVhXRaK4d7c/edit?usp=sharing)

- Participants logged onto Jamboard to answer two questions about something going well in their lives and what they hoped to happen during the meeting.

## **DEI Statement Review**

- Nicky emphasized the significance of the DEI statement as an organizational policy with the power to guide work at FACCC. He noted that embodying the FACCC DEI statement into the work of each FACCC committee is central to any effective strategy to engaged in community college advocacy throughout the state, especially given that the vast majority of community college students are people of color.
- The DEI statement's aim was described as deeply embedding anti-racism into FACCC's operational framework with specific strategies like empowerment of people of color within community college institutional settings, especially students, and recognizing the impact of structural racism throughout many aspects of the community college system.
- Natalina noted that committee members, including past BIPOC committee members, encountered challenges/resistance in drafting the DEI statement and getting the FACCC Board to adopt the statement. It was noted that historically the FACCC Board has been predominantly white. Recognition was given to past FACCC president Debby Klein for her helpful leadership in the adoption of the FACCC DEI statement.
- The DEI statement was a result of a collective efforts among several key BIPOC committee members.
- The BIPOC committee's past accomplishment of the FACCC land acknowledgment was noted.

## **Committee Liaison Assignments**

- Liaison assignments to various committees were talked about in terms of integrating the DEI statement's goals into actionable work within those committees.
- Outreach to committee chairs had started, with responses ranging from busy schedules to spring breaks causing delays.
- Francis reported that the chair of the Legislation and Budget Committee indicated that the committee was too busy at the moment to honor the BIPOC committee's request to consider and adopt one anti-racist action for the year.
- The following BIPOC liaison committee roles were confirmed:
  1. Advocacy & Leadership- Mzilikazi Kone
  2. Board of Governors- Desiree Montenegro
  3. Communications- Nicky Gonzalez Yuen
  4. Counseling- Maria Estrada
  5. FACCC PAC- Natalina Monteiro
  6. Legislation & Budget- Francis Howard-
  7. Part time- Desiree Montenegro
  8. Policy- Thomas Carrasco (tentative)
  9. Professional Development- Rocio Diaz
  10. Retirement- Robin Daniels

## **Work Plan Strategy Breakout Sessions**

- The group split into 3 breakout rooms for **10** minutes to work on their strategies for the next steps.
- Their aim was to come back with clearly defined goals and methods for implementation in the coming month.
- Breakout participants reported back on their discussions and work plan goals on the group Jam Board:

[https://jamboard.google.com/d/1iG1fvTwjCU\\_rKm-o5B2rW46FaF0VeDGHVhXRaK4d7c/edit?usp=sharing](https://jamboard.google.com/d/1iG1fvTwjCU_rKm-o5B2rW46FaF0VeDGHVhXRaK4d7c/edit?usp=sharing)

## **Participant Availability for Future Committee Work**

- A hand count showed most members plan to reapply to the BIPOC committee, except for Maria, who was considering the Counseling group as well.
- Concerns about reapplication timing were brought up due to it taking place after a significant committee workday event.

## **Next Steps and Progress**

- Nicky agreed to draft a joint BIPOC committee letter to be shared with FACCC Committees as we request their action on our work plan. Natalina, Francis, and Desiree agreed to comment/edit draft. Final version to be completed in a few days to be shared out. It was suggested that this letter should have both a rationale for the work and simple steps that can be taken for committees to follow through. Make it easy and obvious.