

**Skyline College**  
**Stewardship for Equity, Equal Employment and Diversity (SEED)**  
**Advisory Committee**  
January 22, 2007

**MEETING MINUTES**

Members: Lori Adrian, Linda Allen, Rosie Bell, Amory Cariadus, John Chavez,  
Donna Elliott, Melissa Komadina, Vicki Morrow and Richard Soyombo.  
Recorder: Linda Ghio

Absent: Amory Cariadus

**Review and approval of minutes of December 18, 2006**

The minutes of December 18, 2006 were approved as written.

**M.E.E.T. Training**

Donna Elliott reported that the date of the M.E.E.T. training has not yet been decided. She will provide an update on the training at the February 26 meeting.

**Who Are We...Fascinating Rhythms**

Rosie said she was having a few difficulties with planning for the spring Diversity Days events. She said she was having issues with room availability on campus, the availability of performers, the charging of honorariums for performance, and encouraging faculty to get on board with the reading project. Rosie prepared an update on the events that she reviewed with the SEED Committee.

February 28: She has a strong tentative commitment from Victor Thomas who has a contact with African talking drums, for February 28<sup>th</sup> in the Gallery Theatre from 12:45 to 2:15 p.m. He has been out of town and she hopes to have confirmation soon.

March 14: Rosie has a firm commitment from Hafez Modirzadeh, the ethnomusicologist from San Francisco State University. She said he has a good website and also has a music ensemble. The group had discussed having Hafez speak about music and have Jude Navari and the Skyline Choir perform. Rosie asked the group if it wants Hafez to bring his band. She said he can play anything and will play whatever the college wants. She also asked if the group still wants Jude Navari and the Skyline Choir to perform. Vicki thought it might tie in better if Hafez performed, however if Jude has given it some thought, then we might want to let him do something. Rosie said Jude has not started planning for the vent, but she will talk to him. Rosie likes the idea of asking Hafez to perform the entire evening. The event would be held from 7:15-9:00 p.m. in the Main Theatre. Rosie hopes it would be a community event and she will work with Shelly Hausman to publicize the event right away.

April 18: She is awaiting a response from John Santos, the Afro-Cuban percussionist who teaches at CSM, who is traveling at this time. She said there was an issue with

money. There was an issue concerning money when she offered him an honorarium of \$300 because Hafez only requested \$100. Rosie said she could offer John Santos \$1000 and that is the most she can afford. Otherwise, she will contact John Ulloa who is a musicologist and can bring his band. The committee agreed with this idea.

March 29: She reserved the Main Theatre for March 29 from 12:45-2:15 p.m., but does not have an act yet. She spoke to Sherri Hancock, who was going to arrange a Native American Pow Wow, but she has not heard back from Sherri.

May 2: Rosie booked the Main Theatre from 12:45 to 2:15 p.m. on May 2 in hopes that John Ulloa could play in conjunction with any Cinco de Mayo celebrations. Rosie was hoping to hold something in the new Building 6 Student Center, but had heard it was not soundproof. Vicki said it is not going to be a problem because there are no classrooms in there. Vicki said Building 6 was built to be a mini conference center, so it should accommodate all kinds of events. Donna said the Health Center Blood Drive will be in the Student Center on that date. Rosie will see if she can move the event to May 3 and will consider asking Amory if any Cinco de Mayo events can be held on May 3.

Rosie asked Lori if a band can perform in the entryway of Building 6 instead of upstairs. Lori will talk to the ASSC about it. She asked if performances could also be held outdoors and Melissa asked if there is a policy around music on campus. Lori said music can be on campus as long as it is not disruptive to the classes around it. Lori said that it should not be a problem as long as someone is there to modulate the amplification, but the sound would need to be tested first. Vicki noted that the current plan for the renovation for the quad is to start during spring break. That process will go from the beginning of April through the beginning of August. We will be able to move from building to building with disabled access, but the exterior will be torn up. Vicki said we may have to think about going inside on this event. Rosie asked if the Main Theatre Lobby would work and Lori thought that location may be a more disruptive because there are more classes around in that area. Lori thought the Student Center lobby/fireplace area would be good. Facilities could put risers in the area and make a stage.

### Book Discussion

Rosie is going to ask Phyllis Taylor to assist her with the “Book Rap” discussion about *The Color of Water*. Rosie’s and Phyllis’ honor students are reading the book but Rosie is not sure what other faculty are doing. She asked the group if it thinks it would be a good idea to have one or two students who are reading the book get involved in leading the discussion. Vicki liked the idea of the honors groups leading the discussion. Lori said the ASSC is also reading it and they might want to participate. The group liked the idea of calling the discussion “Book Rap.” Rosie will have to reserve the area around the fireplace for the discussion. Lori would like to see some diversity in terms of staff that would lead the discussion. She suggested it be an informal group of managers and classified staff, along with some guiding questions, and perhaps six different gathering times so any can participate. Rosie proposed a timeslot from 10:00-11:00 a.m. and she and Phyllis can lead it. Lori asked it can be more than just two people. Vicki said that suggestion would help to take the work off Rosie’s shoulders and Vicki suggested

approaching Connie Beringer to see if there is a handful of English faculty who could convene a group because they routinely do this. They could consult with Rosie and have Shelly publicize it. A suggestion was made to include other teachers, in addition to English faculty, and Rosie suggested that faculty from the Social Science/Creative Arts Division be asked to lead a group.

Rosie has not heard from other faculty as to whether or not they are planning to use the book. Vicki will put something in *Skyline Shines* to see which faculty are using it in their curriculum. Vicki said she did not see a display in the bookstore and Rosie contacted the publisher and has not yet received information. She will ask Shelly to print a sign and get a stack of books to display. Vicki will ask Regina to speak to faculty in the Instructional Leadership Team about the book and Vicki will remind the Management Council to work with their faculty on incorporating it into their curriculum. Rosie said in the future she would like to see that more faculty and deans are informed across the board. Faculty are so set in their plan and it may be a struggle to get them to build that into their syllabi. Melissa said the Academic Senate really bought into the idea and were really pleased with the selection of *The Color of Water*. Vicki said she will speak to Carla about the book. The evening faculty needs to be made aware of it so there could perhaps be evening discussions as well. She will work with Shelly and Sandy to publicize it outside of the Skyline college community. Richard will put up flyers at the Center for International Trade Development once they are prepared.

John asked if Rosie has heard anything about students being reticent about having to buy a copy of the book. He suggested that the TRIO Program purchase 10 copies of the book and provide them free in the Learning Center to TRIO students who may not be able to afford to buy them. Rosie asked who that request would come from and if the college should approach the publisher and ask for free books. Vicki suggested that Rosie ask Barbara Daley to arrange to have the library buy them and Lori suggested that she speak with Golda to see if the ASSC would also purchase some.

#### Photo Collage

Rosie's assistant Priscilla will start scanning photos and Bridge Fischer will help her to order the matting and frames. There will not be a showing at the Gallery Theatre because it is already completely booked and Bridget could not change anything. Barbara Daley agreed to display some of the photos outside the library and in the Student Center. Lori asked Rosie to speak to Golda Gacutan, who is filling in for Amory Cariadus, about displaying in the new building. The deadline for photo submissions is March 15 so that the photos can be on display at the end of March. Rosie said honors students will get 10 points for participating in the project. Rosie asked Lori if the bulletin boards outside of the Learning Center can be used. Lori said that if there is glass on them and they are lockable, then she would need to check with Connie Beringer as they belong to the Language Arts Division.

#### Reflection Paper concept based on the Ya Ya Box

Melissa said the idea is to create a definition of "Who Am I," using a box. The inside of the box is how a person feels they are described and the outside is what they think others

think of them. It can be a collage, a bag or a box. Melissa asked if this activity would be incorporated in classes to go along with the paper. Rosie said the box would have a reflection paper in it, the collage, and any other items that the student would want to include that is important to them. She said that the project would get students and people to stretch as far as possible to tell what they envision for themselves, how they describe themselves, how others describe them. Rosie thinks it is a wonderful opportunity for everyone on campus. She said the challenge is getting everyone to get behind this idea especially since the book project will be happening. Vicki suggested that the Ya Ya Box concept be used for next year and in the meantime talk about it. Richard suggested approaching the Management Council with the idea and Vicki said she would be willing to consider it.

Lori said the original idea was to offer it as a tool that faculty could use to talk about the question, "Who Am I." Vicki said that is her concern about doing it in a mandatory way because it involves disclosure and that is her hesitation with making it a management requirement.

Rosie suggested that it may take more advanced discussion. Perhaps the concept should be introduced in *Skyline Shines* and then followed up with a letter. More discussion about it could be held on Opening Day and then by spring, people may be a little more interested in the concept. Rosie thinks it would work well with the Common Ground project, "Who Am I."

Melissa said that when she did it in a class, the response varied. She said there is a reaction in how people interpret it and what they want to disclose. She said it is thought-provoking.

Rosie said the difficulty would be getting faculty to buy into the concept and some may not be receptive. Vicki said it is all about diversity and not everyone will jump on board. Lori said that some may look at the concept differently and this is not the only way to do it. Vicki would like to talk about the concept later in the spring and discuss how to launch that project. Lori asked if the group thinks there are some classes that may want to start it sooner and try it out and Melissa said the concept is very flexible and she did introduce it to her class. Her class did a collage rather than a box. Lori said there are classes that may be able to deal with the concept, rather than the box. A suggestion was made to meet at the end of the spring semester with some of the campus groups such as ASTEP and Puente to talk with them about the concept. In the meantime, the SEED Committee will discuss the topic at the February meeting.

Melissa said she will meet with the Academic Senate on January 26 and will talk about the book. She asked if there was any information that she could convey to the senate. Rosie said that faculty syllabi are set, but perhaps she could remind them of the possibility of assigning it for a bank assignment or extra credit and Melissa said she would. Rosie will follow up with Melissa afterward and as the event becomes more focused and people start to respond, she will continue to email the SEED committee on updates rather than wait to communicate with the group at the February meeting.

### **SMCCD Foundation Grant**

Richard applied for and was awarded a \$2000 grant from the SMCCCD Foundation. His idea was to find a way for him to connect with students since the CITD was moving on campus. He would like to invite an elected official from Sacramento who has a diverse background, either based on gender, ethnicity, or sexual orientation, who could interest students by showing that if they can make in the field of politics then the students can also do it. His commitment is to get the person scheduled and he wants the students to organize it. He has to submit a report by the fall.

The SEED Committee said that it relates to what it is doing and Lori said it might be a good tie-in with voter registration. Richard is going to start working with Sacramento legislators to get them on board and will work with Assembly Representative Gene Mullins on the idea. Rosie said it would be very enjoyable for the students. Vicki suggested that he speak with the Social Sciences Division because there will be a cadre of interested students and faculty. Rosie suggested he contact Johannes Masare in the Social Sciences division. Richard said he will talk to Donna Bestock and Regina Stanback-Stroud about it, and would also like to speak with Academic Senate. The faculty could get students to come if they assign it as an extra credit. Vicki said he should contact Regina about presenting the information to the deans at an ILT meeting and also present it to the Academic Senate. Lori suggested that he also present it to the Student Organizations and Clubs Committee and he said that his assistant, Barbara Lamson, is sending information to the club advisors. Melissa asked him if he would prepare a brief write-up so that she can let faculty know, and then ultimately the students. Richard said he will create a timeline.

Lori said the critical thing is getting students to organize it because they get busy and will need to work in collaboration with someone. Rosie suggested that he also talk to Lori Slicton who advises the anthropology club and women in transition program. Donna said that the event would need a strong leader in order for it to be successful.

Richard made a suggestion that the SEED Committee holds debriefing meetings after each diversity event so the committee can learn anything from the earliest event which would help plan subsequent events. Vicki said the committee should discuss whether it needs anything other than the pre-existing SEED meeting dates. It will be added to the February agenda.

### **Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on February 26 from 2:15-4:15 in Room 5131.