

ATTENDING: Krutika Amin, Susan Andrews, Peggye Dilworth-Anderson, Laurel Files (taking notes), Tandra Hilliard, Dio Kavalieratos, Autumn Locklear, Christina Lomax, Jason Mose, Kristin Reiter, LeVelton Thomas, Bryan Weiner, Julia Zhu

NOTES

Introductions

Everyone introduced themselves; of the fourteen student members, nine are new and five are returning. Susan Andrews, project field manager on Dr. Gary Rozier’s projects, has also joined the committee. Peggye briefly summarized the committee’s history and previous activities.

Work Groups: Organization and Proposed Changes

Laurel opened a discussion of the committee’s organization around work groups. She reviewed the groups that were in place last year and indicated what Peggye and she were proposing for this year. The committee discussed the groups one by one:

LGBT ISSUES This committee was very active in 2010-2011, under the leadership of Dio Kavalieratos, who briefly updated the group on some of those activities. Susan has agreed to join him as Faculty/Staff Lead for this year. Dio reported that he and Derrick Matthews, a HBHE doctoral student, are seeking approval for a new course to be cross-listed between the two departments (HPM 705/HBHE 705) and offered beginning spring 2012, “Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Health: A Population Perspective.” Bryan Weiner (HPM) and Noel Brewer (HBHE) will be the instructors of record. Peggye suggested that a focus on the older generation also be included. With regard to activities for this coming year, Dio indicated that the work group will continue to work with the Health Sciences LGBTQ Alliance (a symposium was discussed last year), and will define additional activities as the year progresses.

ORIENTATION Tandra reported on her work with Jeffrey Simms to develop a presentation for the Master’s Orientation—also attended by a couple of doctoral students. This work group is primarily active in the spring and summer. The goal this year will be to work with all of the degree program directors to assure inclusion of this presentation in all 2012 orientations, as it was very successful this year.

FACULTY-STUDENT CONNECTIONS CoDI has had a work group focused on external connections and celebrations that was to focus on “ambassador” activities, bringing in speakers, and creating a Diversity Day celebration. So far, this has been too ambitious, given the number of other activities with higher priority. At our May diversity luncheon, students expressed the desire for more opportunities to connect with faculty. Peggye and Laurel have proposed that we restrict our activities in this area to one new activity—planned “drop-in” faculty-student times, tentatively named “Tea Time”:

- Room 1106 would be reserved for an hour, maybe every other month
- Peggye and Laurel would provide tea and light refreshments
- Faculty would be asked in advance to commit to attending at least one Tea Time, to assure that there would be several faculty members in attendance
- All students and faculty will be invited to stop in during that hour, just to chat and “connect”

Students on the committee were very supportive of this idea, and Julia volunteered to develop a poster to promote the events. Although Peggye and Laurel originally thought about doing this on a day when not many classes are scheduled, students advised that there would be greater participation on a class day, when students could drop in between classes. Laurel will work with Lynnette to select a time/day for the first Tea Time and to initiate implementation.

RECRUITING Last year, this work group was very focused on how to increase minority applicants to, and students in, the PhD program. Bryan, who is a member of the PhD Admissions Committee, was instrumental in that committee’s adopting a “second look” process, to assure that qualified applicants are not overlooked. Laurel reported that the Master’s Admissions Committee has worked very aggressively and successfully to recruit underrepresented minorities, and the BSPH program has good minority representation. It was decided to focus for this year on developing “templates,” or checklists, for recruiting activities for each of the programs, and then to work with the program directors—who are key to making this a priority—to implement these. Bryan and Kristin volunteered to work on developing an application checklist.

NATIVE AMERICAN RECRUITING Laurel noted the very small number of American Indian students in the department, important, she believes, because of the size of the American Indian population in North Carolina, along with their health care needs. The committee will agreed to target Native American recruiting this coming year, and Laurel and Peggye plan to meet with Danny Bell to discuss strategies for doing this; Danny is program assistant for UNC-CH’s American Indian Studies program.

Autumn Locklear pointed out that the North Carolina Native American Youth Organization, a program housed under the NC Department of Administration, holds an annual summer conference (<http://www.doa.nc.gov/cia/conference.htm>); she has volunteered to work on offering a public health workshop at this conference, to increase awareness of public health careers among high school students.

Susan expanded on this, noting that the Provost’s office always publishes a list of summer activities that are held on campus or sponsored by various campus offices (summer camps, botanical garden, and things like that), many of them sponsored by minority groups or diversity offices and targeting minority high schoolers. This might be another window of early opportunity for us. She volunteered to investigate whether there were similar activities for rising juniors and grad student levels, thinking that perhaps we (department or school) could get on the agenda of some of these offices and partner with them to raise awareness of the opportunities here. (Some offices that provide services to under-served groups are: <http://nchcap.unc.edu/>, <http://americanindiancenter.unc.edu/>, <http://provost.unc.edu/announcements/LGBTQ-funding>,

<http://www.admissions.unc.edu/Event/ProjectUplift/default.html>,
<http://www.unc.edu/diversity/index.htm>.) She suggested also targeting Latino/a enrollment, which is not very high in the department either.

CLASSROOM IMPROVEMENTS AND INNOVATION The committee agreed with the proposal that we discontinue this work group, preferring to defer to—and work with—the CEEI. Peggys and Laurel will meet with John Paul, CEEI chair, suggesting that the three of them meet at the beginning of each semester to discuss potential joint activities. In the meantime, Kristin, who is a member of CEEI, noted that there is a shortage of students on the committee and encouraged CoDI students to volunteer for that committee.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS Developing new community projects is probably too ambitious an undertaking for now, and so this work group will be dormant for this year. It was suggested, however, that some committee members might be interested in searching out community projects and developing a database of projects that might be integrated into courses.

INFRASTRUCTURE Peggys and Laurel will oversee infrastructure activities—including website maintenance (currently being handled by Laurel), database development, etc.—with a primary focus being the institutionalization of committee activities.

OTHER The following activities will no longer reside in work groups:

- *Distance Students* We have to figure out how better to involve distance students. For now, we will depend on the EMP and DrPH Program representatives on the committee to contribute the distance students' perspective to our deliberations and activities, and to serve as a liaison between CoDI and their classmates. We also will work with the two program directors to assure a CoDI presence during orientation . . . or at some other time early the students joining the program.
- *Availability of Students to Serve on Committees* Laurel will share the complete list of student volunteers with the Executive Committee and with the heads of HPM student organizations, encouraging them to contact individual students as they need student representation on committees.
- *SPH Task Force* Since the SPH task force has concluded its work and submitted its report, our primary focus now should be in supporting future initiatives that emerge from the report and its proposals.

LOGO Laurel suggested that it might be a good idea for the committee to have a logo. Tandra suggested that we have a logo design contest, advertising it to students prior to the first Tea Time, where we would post entries and ask people to vote on their favorite.

TASK AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Task	Responsibility	Related Work Group
Select a fall semester date for first Tea Time	Peggye & Laurel	Faculty-Student Connections
Create a poster to “advertise” first Tea Time	Julia	Faculty-Student Connections
Identify a few faculty members to commit to attend first Tea Time	Laurel	Faculty-Student Connections
Draft an application checklist to be used by all Admissions Committees	Bryan & Kristin	Recruiting
Arrange to meet with Danny Bell (with Laurel)	Peggye	Recruiting
Explore offering a public health workshop at NC Native American Youth Organization summer conference	Autumn	Recruiting
Identify offices/contacts with whom we might partner to develop recruiting activities, especially for American Indian and Hispanic applications	Susan	Recruiting
Arrange to meet with John Paul to discuss CoDI/CEEI joint activities (with Peggye)	Laurel	—
Share list of CoDI student volunteers with Executive Committee and head of HPM student organizations	Laurel	—
Promote logo design contest	Laurel	Infrastructure
Talk with distance program directors (EMP, DrPH) about a diversity “orientation” activity when students return to campus at the end of the fall semester	Laurel	Orientation

WORK GROUPS (2011-2012)

WORK GROUP	FACULTY/STAFF LEAD(S) & CURRENT MEMBERS
Faculty-Student Connections	Faculty Leads: Peggy Dilworth-Anderson & Laurel Files Students: Julia Zhu
LGBT Issues	Faculty/Staff Lead: Susan Andrews Students: Dio Kavalieratos
Orientation	Faculty Lead: Jeffrey Simms Students: Tandra Hilliard
Recruiting	Faculty Leads: Jeffrey Simms & Laurel Files; also Susan Andrews, Peggye Dilworth-Anderson, Students: Diedre Boozer, Tandra Hilliard, Dio Kavalieratos, Autumn Locklear, Christina Lomax, Jason Mose, LeVelton Thomas
Infrastructure	Faculty Leads: Laurel Files & Peggye Dilworth-Anderson