



02/16/2021, 4:30 PM

Zoom

Senate Minutes

I. Roll Call

- A. Call to Order at 4:32 PM
- B. All Present

- 1. Not Present: Senator Schmidt (4:35 PM), Senator Akins (4:36 PM), Senator Valladares

II. Visitors & Guest Speakers

A. Amy Nelson-Christensen, Chair of the Anti-Racism Initiative

- 1. Dr. Nelson-Christensen stated that there are three overarching goals of the initiative that started in the summer 2020. A group of individuals of faculty, staff, and black student leadership came together to make these goals. They are:
 - a. Create a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment for students, staff, and faculty of color
 - b. Facilitate Black student, staff, and faculty success
 - c. Enhance diversity, equity, and inclusion in academic affairs
- 2. These goals have multiple strategies under them. Strategy 8 will be completed mainly through the racial justice examen. All of the schools are reflecting on their practices on specific domains relating to academic affairs.
- 3. As Chair, she was installed last month, one thing that is important is that each strategy is important in addressing anti-racism with deep systemic change. What she proposed is that through involved in the antiracism working group to become an advisory group.
- 4. Their higher-level priorities. Goal 1 Strategy 2 is something that is on top of everyone's minds. Being able to create a dispute resolution procedure will be important. With Goal 2 Strategy 4, the task force is made up of students and staff planning for the Office of Black Student Success. With Goal 3 Strategy 8, to her and with her personal work one of the things she does is self-reflection and engage in self-improvement. We need to think about how we embed a system for reflection and continuous improvement.
- 5. For each of the three priorities she mentioned, they created a logic model. They use a template that shows what they are going to do, what they have done, and what they expect the outcomes to be in short-term, intermediate, and long-term outcomes. She will be working with each strategy team to develop a plan and progress monitoring outcomes.
- 6. They also have a scope of work for this semester. They plan on refocusing the ARI Advisory Working Group as the ARI Advisory Committee and add Alumni. There needs to be an accounting body, a group of people from different perspectives who can hold this work accountable. They are also learning that alumni are also really engaged and want to give back to this institution. They are proposing that they add a few alumni to this committee. They also plan on completing the Academic Affairs Racial Justice Examen. All academic schools will be engaging in this examen. They will be engaging in dialogues in March and provide a report on what they have learned. They plan on meeting with strategy teams for the three top priorities to establish scope of work and outcomes for progress monitoring. They plan on launching a storytelling campaign centered on Black student voice. They hired student to work on communication strategies. They want to make sure they are not decentering black student voices. They are also planning on redesigning the ARI website. They have feedback from students that it is very congested and that they don't know what initiative is. She is meeting with UMC every two weeks and is working with someone to redesign the website. They also want to keep track of outcomes on the website. They also plan to identify short-term, intermediate, and long-term outcomes. They plan on establishing a metrics committee to begin process monitoring so they can be aware of progress.
- 7. Questions
 - a. Senator Carberry asked that with the story-telling campaign, what is the group of students you are working with, is there any other way your team is intentionally reaching out to students, and if students want to be involved how can they.
 - i. Dr. Nelson-Christensen stated that students involved are black-identified students who are involved with student groups like BCC and student governance. She is giving them a platform through ARI and intentionally providing them space to innovate and create. She has given them the opportunity to create this campaign to what they think this should look like.
 - b. Senator Mallory asked that in regard to Loyola's definition of anti-racism, how does it pillar with ARI.



02/16/2021, 4:30 PM
Zoom
Senate Minutes

8. Dr. Nelson-Christensen stated that the definition is to be actively against racism. It is not on the website yet. One of the things the examen looks like is through the ARI continuum (https://www.aesa.us/conferences/2013_ac_presentations/Continuum_AntiRacist.pdf). The continuum explains how we are trying to move from a racist to a multicultural organization. It explains how we share power and how we're actively going to root out racism and write supremacy.
9. Senator Harrison asked with increasing access to mental health resources to black students, she is wondering what progress is and what strategy is for implementation.
 - a. Dr. Nelson-Christensen stated that resources are really important. There is a strategy team focused on this work right now. They are currently in a discovery phase but are rethinking them from a lens of intersectionality and cultural humility. They also have a student worker that is looking at what other universities are doing to see what we can also learn from them. It is not a priority right now because they are mainly in the discovery phase.
10. Senator Doyle stated that regarding the portion of the presentation regarding alumni, she asked if they are going to be compensated and outside of the advisory committee are alumni going to be engaged and how.
 - a. Dr. Nelson-Christensen stated that they have been contacted by individuals who work with the Black Alumni Board. She will be working with Alumni Relations to develop a plan to see what the plan will look like. She has requested that those working with the storytelling campaign to reach out to alumni as well.
11. Senator Richards asked who is involved and what thoughts are there with the goal of strengthening the relationship between Campus Safety and residents,
 - a. Dr. Nelson-Christensen stated that the Strategy teams listed on the website. People on that team represent Student Development and Campus Safety. They are meeting to discuss things like the cards to build relationships with students and how we envision how they do their work. They are also in a discovery phase. With the storytelling campaign, there may be some stories that we can share with Campus Safety as well.
12. Senator Robbins asked if this is more of a group that is just supporting black students and where other racial groups and minorities fit into this.
 - a. Dr. Nelson-Christensen stated that there is a term called targeted universalism. If you want to think about systemic change and dismantling white supremacy, focused on one marginalized identity, create a system that will support them, and that support will help everyone. You will center one group and voice and the systems that you create will benefit other marginalized groups as well. When you focused on the words of the marginalized, everyone benefits.
13. President Drescher asked about future conversations about compensation for those students and black student campaign due to the extra ask of them.
 - a. Dr. Nelson-Christensen stated that they are compensated responsibilities.
14. Senator Bronec stated that BCC released a recent document in support of black students, she was wondering if it has been looked at.
 - a. Dr. Nelson-Christensen stated that she has a meeting with the former ARI chair about that document. She has looked through it but wants some feedback from the outgoing chair. The advisory committee does get those emails so there will be follow-up.
15. President Drescher asked that a common question that comes up is the accountability factor of what happens, for example if a department doesn't take up the examen, and if there is a preliminary plan for those circumstances.
 - a. Dr. Nelson-Christensen stated that she is being very intentional that while they are rolling out the ARI, they are also not perpetuating systems of white supremacy. Systems of accountability have white supremacy undertones. Perfection is another way where we carry out racism. Wants to be careful in how we work with committees to help them understand the value and carry out next steps on very deep reflection on their practices. She has yet to have a committee ask why they are doing this. She has had people tell her that this is going well. The heart to want to do this is there. People want to do better which is reassuring.



02/16/2021, 4:30 PM

Zoom

Senate Minutes

16. Senator Carberry asked how the Racial justice Institute will be interacting with the ARI and if they are the same thing.
 - a. Dr. Nelson-Christensen stated that they are not the same thing. She has been working closely with the Dean and have been meeting on a regular basis as thought partners. Dean Henfield has a vision for the institute, so she does not want to disturb that. ARI also has specific goals, and she wants to honor that in respect.
 17. Senator Pittman asked what student groups they are working with.
 - a. Dr. Nelson-Christensen stated that there are student representatives from SGLC, BCC, White Coats for Black Lives, Black Graduate Student Association. The names of those people are on the website. As this work evolves, she cannot speak to any of the strategy teams once they are done with the discovery phase, but she hopes to see a discovery of leadership.
 18. Senator Richards asked that for the examen that it would be implemented in the schools, but would it be implemented with administration as well.
 - a. Dr. Nelson-Christensen stated no. Some Deans are working with their committees and some Deans aren't. The Deans and the Provost Office are receiving training on anti-racism. They are doing training with leadership from an external consultant.
- III. Approval of the Minutes
- A. No Amendments Made
 - B. Minutes are approved at 4:34 PM
- IV. Advisors' Reports
- A. Chaplain (**Fr. Michael Christiana**)
 1. None at this time.
 - B. Advisor (**Dean Sheahan & Rodriguez**)
 1. None at this time.
- V. Unfinished Business
- A. None at this time.
- VI. New Business & Discussion
- A. None at this time.
- VII. Internal Reports
- A. Legislative Branch
 1. Standing Committees
 - a. Academic Affairs (**Senator Palmer**)
 - i. Senator Palmer stated that if you have any interest in initiatives, please reference the reports or the Academic Affairs folder. They are transitioning to move everything into these folders on SharePoint.
 - b. Allocations (**Senator Doyle**)
 - i. Senator Doyle stated that they have office hours this week. SPOT 2 is due at 5:00 PM on Friday. Please email her with any questions.
 - c. Facilities & Transportation (**Senator Carberry**)
 - i. Senator Carberry stated that everything is in the report.
 - d. Justice (**Senator Bronec**)
 - i. Senator Bronec stated that Senator Nanda is working on the sophomore reorientation initiative. Senator Pittman stated that Senator Pittman is consolidating questions for Covid. Senator Harrison and Senator Mallory just finished their legislation. Senator Bronec stated that she and Senator Caputo are finishing up research and hope to start writing legislation soon.
 - e. Residents, Commuters, & Dining (**Senator Caputo**)
 - i. Senator Caputo stated that Senator Brist and VP Flores will meet this Friday to discuss improvements to UNIV program. Senator Thilges is taking over the sustainability module initiative and is meeting with CSO Hoyos. If you have any questions, please reach out.
 - f. Safety & Wellness (**Senator Rafiq**)



02/16/2021, 4:30 PM
Zoom
Senate Minutes

- i. Senator Rafiq stated that everything is in the report. Senator Kwak and Senator Riopedre are finishing up their legislation. Please also reach out to Senator Harrison and Senator Mallory on their legislation.
2. Special Committees
 - a. Budget Committee (**Senator Riopedre**)
 - i. Senator Riopedre stated that everything is in their report. They are also going to all committees to discuss as well.
 - b. Governance Committee (**Senator Kwak**)
 - i. Senator Kwak stated that everything is in the report. They are working on seven pieces of legislation right now.
 - c. Spring Elections Committee (**Chairperson Walsh**)
 - i. Senator Richards stated that everything is in the report. The packets will be going out March 1st and advertising for that will be going out in the coming weeks. Chairperson Walsh will be meeting with Advisor Sheahan soon.
- B. Judicial Branch (**Chief Justice Mooney**)
 1. CJ Mooney stated that office hours are tomorrow from 6:00 – 8:00 PM. Please come to office hours or set up a meeting with one of us to talk about your legislation.
- C. Executive Branch
 1. President Drescher & Vice President Flores
 - a. President Drescher stated that in regard to legislation, there are a lot of great pieces coming down. It will pile up at the end. It is best to present it to the floor then you have one or two weeks to edit it. It doesn't have to be completely done for the first reading. Please talk to Judicial so they can provide some feedback.
 - b. VP Flores stated that with the message from the Provost of the withdrawal deadline, it is a major academic decision. Students who need this use this opportunity.
 - c. President Drescher stated that they are working with a small subset of members on resource consolidation. They are working at expanding the group from there. This way students can easily find the resources they need. They flagged this to some administrators who will be involved.
 - d. VP Flores stated that they are meeting with VP Neufeld this week and have a meeting with Dr. Rooney next week. Please let them know if you would like us to pass anything along.
 2. AG Burris stated to please start transition documents. He created an email group to organize things more. Let him know if you did not receive it.
 3. CoS Dervishi stated that the signups for the Weekly Meetup Program are in the report and the matches are listed with the minutes. Senators, please don't forget about engagement requirements. She stated that she still needs zoom links from committee chairs to put on the SGLC calendar. Spring in-service materials are being compiled and will be on the SharePoint soon.
 4. Speaker O'Brien stated that the last day for legislation is March 30th. She strongly encourages you to not wait till then to send it to the floor. If you have any questions, please reach out to herself, chairs, or Judicial. If you were sent an email about legislation, please respond as she wants to know a timeline for it. If you are writing legislation, please see Judicial. If you do not there are grounds for veto.
- VIII. Adjourn
 - A. Meeting adjourned at 5:42 PM