Commission for Native Americans

Thursday, October 31, 2019

2:30-3:30 p.m.

NACC, Pattea Conference Room A/B

MINUTES

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Report Discussion – Chad Hamill
   1. ONAI for the last 3 ½ years has been tasked with helping the university to realize the mission of advancing Native American Initiatives
      1. Part of the NAU Strategic Plan is a Commitment to Native Americans
   2. Providing unparalleled support to Native American students
   3. Engaged with tribal leadership across AZ and the U.S.
   4. Tribal Consultation Policy
      1. In 2016 ABOR passed this policy due to gross negligence on the part of researchers at ASU (Havasupai case)
         1. The goal is to ensure that this never happens again. It was developed through consultation with tribes
      2. Says any activity that has to do with a recognized tribe must be reviewed and approved through consultation with the tribe(s)
         1. This is separate from the IRB process
            1. It will be more thorough and in tandem
         2. Karen will send the documents electronically
      3. NAU has its own policy that mirrors ABOR’s
         1. NAU’s policy brings things out that are in the ABOR policy but not highlighted
         2. Chad asks that CNA think about how to educate the NAU community on this policy and its importance
            1. Addressing the why
            2. Needs some language that helps people understand and embrace this policy

This is a critical piece

* + - * 1. He would like a draft developed by the February meeting if possible
        2. Would like it to be short and sweet. Just pretend it’s for someone who has no idea about this; how do we get them up to speed?
      1. The Education and Outreach Committee will take this on to begin with

1. Native faculty reception
   1. Need to set date for this semester
2. Priscilla Sanderson and student Calvina (sp?) presentation
   1. MPH grad project
   2. Online Native American Cultural Competency Training
      1. 5 key informant interviews with people who identify as Native American and have a mentoring role
         1. Goal is to help faculty learn about effective strategies when teaching or interacting with students
         2. Created through Black Board Learn and piloting the training next month (November) with health sciences faculty
            1. The training will teach about surrounding tribes
            2. Provide context for faculty to know where their students come from
            3. Know about modern issues and challenges
            4. Received resources
         3. Training takes 2-3 hours
      2. From the interviews she learned the best approach is to have a tribal member (elder) talk about their own culture
      3. They are waiting on IRB approval and then will pilot with the hope to roll out NAU-wide
      4. There is a pre- and post-assessment through Qualtrics
      5. The results from this pilot will be presented December 2nd at 3:00
   3. Feedback
      1. It is so important to students that faculty understand where their students are coming from
         1. It’s hard to speak on behalf of the tribe when asked to do this in classes
      2. Would love to have this available to staff
         1. EAW and Counseling Services have asked for this when available
      3. Worried about resistance to another training, but if departments or units ask for it that’s great evidence it’s needed
      4. Is there anything about sovereignty or government-to-government information? Yes
      5. Add tribal consultation policy when it’s no longer a draft
      6. What about creating a placard or some sort of certificate for when the training is completed - recognition
3. Upcoming Events
   1. Tribal Think Tank lecture series
      1. Need list of events/dates/times
   2. November is Native American Heritage Month
      1. Need list of events/dates/times
4. Other Business
   1. Sarah Kien from psychology
      1. Most recently taught at Dine̍ College
      2. Her department has no support for Indigenous students
         1. She, along with her students, would like to create an Indigenous Psych Speakers Series
            1. They are just in the beginning phases and are collaborating with AIS and NACC

This is the brainstorming phase

* + - * 1. Brought a flyer for their welcome meeting
      1. She was surprised by the lack of diversity in the department and their lack of support for diverse students
      2. She has begun talks for creating an Indigenous Studies Psychology Certificate program
      3. Would like to start a chapter of the Society of Indigenous Psychologists at NAU
         1. Angela Enno would like to collaborate with Dr. Kien to get students to the national conference and retreat, it’s very inexpensive for students

Undergrad or graduate students are welcome and travel funds are available

* + 1. Karen announced that the commission will go back to hour and a half meetings in the spring to accommodate all of the work they are focusing on

Meeting end: 3:32

* 1. The Diversity Strategic Plan is nearing completion. Three task forces have been created to complete the work: Metrics Task Force, Prioritization Task Force, and Search Committee Task Force.
     1. These are open to anyone on the campus to participate in.
     2. For more information email [CUAI@nau.edu](mailto:CUAI@nau.edu)
  2. Elections for co-chairs will likely be happening sometime in May, if not sooner.
     1. Ora is stepping down early, as soon as possible
     2. Shepherd’s term ends this May

1. **Adjourn 2:44 p.m.**
2. Next Meeting: February 6, 2019 at 2pm in Pattea A/B