

## Diversity Curriculum Committee Notes of Discussion

September 14, 2020 – 10:30am-noon, via Zoom

Meeting called by: Christopher Paige, Chair  
Type of meeting: Diversity Curriculum Committee  
Facilitator: Christopher Paige  
Note taker: Barbara Branton

Voting members: Christopher Paige, Rachel Cox, Ari Burford, Debra Edgerton, David Camacho, Gretchen McAllister, John Heick

Non-Voting members: Melinda Trembl, Jeff Berglund, Teresa Del Vecchio

Excused: Rosie Cordova, Okim Kang,

Topic	Discussion
<b>Welcome</b>	Christopher Paige serving as chair. Call to Order Quorum was present.
<b>Approval of Notes of Discussion</b>	D. Edgerton moved, D. Camacho seconded and the notes of August 31, 2020 were approved.
<b>DCC Membership</b>	Members introduced themselves, indicating years with NAU, on the committee and/or the colleges they represent.
<b>Orientation of members</b>	<p>Members reviewed the bylaws, their charge and historical materials that lead to the creation of the Diversity Curriculum Committee. Within the bylaws, several items were identified for revision including correcting the college names and better defining the clause for removal from the committee for missed meetings. A clarification on what constitutes a substantial change versus a change the committee can institute itself was explained through an example. If the committee wanted to add a skill to the diversity curriculum requirements, the University Undergraduate Committee could approve; but if there was a change to a distribution block, that would need to be approved by the Faculty Senate. It is anticipated that additional changes to the bylaws will come with the adoption of the new liberal studies/general education program. An appeal to the unrepresented colleges has been made to fill those seats.</p> <p>In 2003, based on student requests, the diversity requirements were added. Students are required to take a course in US Ethnic diversity with a focus on the non-western world and a global diversity course. The requirements were added with the belief that our graduates will be better informed citizens of the local, national and global communities that shape their lives.</p> <p>Members discussed the review process and coming to consensus on a proposal before it is brought before the committee. Syllabus drift is a concern and the committee is working to address this through review of syllabi when they are submitted as part of the academic program review cycle, every 7 years. Faculty are invited to converse with the committee about their course before the course is formally approved.</p>

	<p>The list of diversity designated courses is being updated. There are still several colleges not teaching any diversity designated courses. The committee would like these colleges to work toward offering some diversity designated courses. Sometimes, the materials is presented, but not to the depth to meet the 60% requirement.</p>
<p><b>Liberal Studies Task Force Update</b></p>	<p>The Liberal Studies Task Force (LSTF) has been developing models to meet the requirements of the ABOR general education policy. Five models were proposed based on the LSTF and the DCC feedback, only two seem viable. The committee discussed the proposals and gave their recommendations for continuing the double dip offering since 80-90% of the approved courses already have a liberal studies designation and a diversity designation. But not all diversity courses will be required to have a liberal studies distribution block/knowledge area. They also encouraged the addition of a third course requirement to encompass “dimensions of difference”. The proposed model(s) suggest bringing the diversity requirements into the proposed liberal studies/general education program. This may help students understand how the required courses fit into their overall degree program. Members hope with the implementation of the new program, that students will be more engaged with the general education program purpose and less about ‘checking a box’ in their degree progression. It would be helpful to have more upper division diversity designated courses. Members also prefer that students be required to take a course in each of the 3 areas, i.e., pursuing breadth, versus depth in the subject matter. The DCC recommendations will be conveyed back to the LSTF and incorporated into the proposal that will ultimately be brought to the Faculty Senate for adoption.</p>
<p><b>Wrap-up - Good of the order</b></p>	
<p><b>Adjourned</b></p>	<p>The meeting adjourned at noon.</p>