

**MEETING MINUTES**

**President’s Council on Inclusive Excellence**

**October 15, 2021**

**Zoom Meeting**

**10:30 am – Noon**

**Members Present: Andrea Arrington, Daniel Parmer, Dianne Frances Powell, Jhansi Chagalakonda, Melissa Gustafson, Stephannie Gambill, Sumalayo Jackson, Szufang Chuang, Amanda Muhammad, Shaad Ahmad, Ardell Sanders, Myles Sanford, Maria Chaqra, Lynn Foster, Rana Johnson**

**Guest: Mr. Sai Ram Upadhyayula**

1. **Welcome:** AVP of Inclusive Excellence and Strategic Initiatives - Rana Johnson

Dr. Johnson welcomed everyone.

1. **Greetings & Introductions:**

Everyone introduced themselves and what department they are in.

1. **Guest Speakers:**

**Mr. Sai Ram Upadhyayula** - President, Indian Student Association

**Ms. Jhansi Chagalakonda** - PhD Student in Curriculum and Instruction; Graduate Teaching Assistant for the Department of Teaching & Learning

The president of the Indian Student Association introduced themselves and the different activities that they host. They hope to bring different cultures together at Global Night in November. The council also discussed how to further promote their events (ISU today, posters, etc.)

The council also discussed one of the council member’s research.

1. **Strategic Planning - Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Social Justice (DEISJ)**

**The covid-19 pandemic is far from over. What should colleges and universities pay attention to, based upon your perspective as a student, faculty member or staff?**

**1. What are you most proud of- what did ISU get right with DEISJ, during the pandemic?**

**2. What are some of the challenges (if any) related to DEISJ, at ISU?**

**3. How can the President’s Council on Inclusive Excellence assist your office, college or department?**

**We discussed strategic planning. One council member mentioned that they were proud of ISU’s ability to transition to remote learning and working quickly. Another member mentioned how well we were able to keep COVID safety protocols (social distancing, masking, etc.) during various outdoor events. Another member mentioned that they were proud of the students feeling of empowerment during that difficult time. ISU did an excellent job in all departments (faculty, students, and staff).**

**One member mentioned that students want in-person interaction. ISU is currently having challenges with attendance at in-person events. Safety concerns, routine of staying home, and low morale were mentioned as possibilities for why attendance may be low. A member also mentioned that it may also be helpful to have faculty members encourage students to attend those events. The council members discussed how to assist students in engaging more with events. They also discussed the importance of making one on one connections at these events, relationships, word-of-mouth, and faculty and staff involvement. The council members discussed hurdles to success. The council also discussed the current ways that events are advertised and possible ways to improve those advertisements.**

**We discussed increasing communication between the groups (faculty, students, and staff). The council also discussed more opportunities for trainings. A council member noted that if anyone is interested in assisting with those trainings, they would be happy to work with them to create a training. Another member mentioned helping others to know what the resources are available to them (trainings, etc.).**

1. **Culturally Relevant Pedagogy Series:**
* **October 26 at 11 am:** LGBTQIAP+ History Month

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://indstate-edu.zoom.us/j/98068531861?pwd=d3pjQWwyT2FuMGRrMVVvQlQzY2p2dz09>

* **November 8 at 11 am:** National First-Generation College Student Celebration (In Person?)
* **November 16 at 11 am:** National First-Generation College Student Panel Discussion (Zoom)

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://indstate-edu.zoom.us/j/98068531861?pwd=d3pjQWwyT2FuMGRrMVVvQlQzY2p2dz09>

We discussed that having these events on Zoom provide attendees better access to both people outside and inside ISU the opportunity to attend.

1. **ISU Resources: Affinity Group Members, Cultural Centers (African American Cultural**

**Center, Global Engagement, Multicultural Programs & Services) HR, Title IX, etc.**

We discussed introducing students to the resources before they are needed.

1. **New Business**

October is Filipino American Awareness month. There will be a display of artifacts at the Commons on Monday.

AAPIC will have a virtual meeting on November 18th. They are working on a flier.

1. **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:02 PM.