Black Student Experience Workgroup 2.0
Meeting Minutes
February 12, 2021 | 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Minutes

Attendees:
Tri-Chairs
• La-Tonyette Buckley  Student, UCR
• Jamal Myrick, Ed.D.  Director, African Student Programs
• Shonte Thomas  Associate Dean of Students of the Ethnic and Gender Centers

Workgroup Members
• Dominique Beale  Admissions Recruiter, Community Engagement & Outreach, Undergraduate Admissions
• Allura Davis  Admissions Counselor, Community & Engagement Outreach, Undergraduate Admissions
• Alton Carswell  Case Manager, Health & Wellness - Case Management
• Demetrius Eulingbourgh  Student, UCR
• Keona Henderson  President, UCR Black Alumni Chapter
• Will Pines  Accessible Technology Specialist, SDRC
• Raquel Rall, Ph.D.  Faculty, Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Education
• Charles Woods  Student and Member National Society of Black Engineers, UCR

Administrative Support
• Andrea Patrick  Administrative Assistant, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

• After workgroup members introduced themselves, Dr. Myrick reviewed the charge for the Black Student Experience Workgroup (BSEWG) 2.0.

• Dr. Myrick reviewed a brief history and outcomes of the original BSEWG; explained key areas of its report; and highlighted points of distinction from other campus workgroups that may have a similar name or composition.
  o With support from campus leadership, including Chancellor Wilcox, VCSA Brian Haynes, and Interim Provost Thomas Smith, the second iteration of the BSEWG was created.
  o BSEWG 2.0 members will work to implement approved recommendations and carry out other aspects of the group’s charge.
  o BSEWG 2.0 members are asked to review the report.

• The structure and groundwork for BSEWG 2.0 were discussed and attendees received a brief overview of the shared drive.
  o Prior to this first 2.0 meeting, efforts were made to facilitate the work of the group, including:
    ▪ Carrying out nominations
    ▪ Obtaining input from campus/community leaders regarding implementation and collaboration
    ▪ Prioritizing recommendations and determining a timeline
    ▪ Creating a shared drive
    ▪ Scheduling monthly BSEWG 2.0 meetings
Shonte Thomas discussed subcommittees and presented an implementation timeline.
  o Recommendations are prioritized based on urgency and feasibility in light of factors such as COVID-19.
  o BSEWG will work with Undergraduate Admissions (UGA) to implement recommendations, as a number of the recommended actions relate to this area.
  o There is a possibility of adding an additional subcommittee or subcommittees as needed.

There was a group discussion regarding matters related to BSEWG 2.0.
  o Shonte Thomas noted that the charge of the BSEWG 2.0 includes building inclusive and positive environments for Black student success and holistic well-being; the work of the Campus Safety Task Force (CSTF) is related to the BSEWG 2.0 in this aspect.
    ▪ It is suggested that BSEWG 2.0 members review the CSTF report and the group may provide feedback regarding the CSTF in the future.
  o Members discussed accountability; obtaining resources and support within the campus community; and ways to ensure recommendations of the BSEWG are implemented in a timely manner.
  o It is noted that the University of California Undergraduate Experience Survey (UCUES) has student data that may be relevant to the work of the BSEWG 2.0.
  o Tri-chairs will continue discussions regarding sending a declaration to the campus announcing the work of the BSEWG 2.0., its membership/leadership, and other relevant information. Plans are to send the declaration during the first week in March. It is noted that tri-chairs sought to meet as a collective prior to sending the declaration.
  o Allura Davis noted that due to a significant number of approved recommendations for UGA, the department has discussed forming a committee for this matter. She asked if this is an agreeable approach in terms of the BSEWG 2.0. Shonte Thomas agreed with the approach.

Additional Actions Items
  o Shonte Thomas will send an email to the BSEWG 2.0 that allows members to select a subcommittee.
  o The email will also include a question about accountability and what that would look like. Plans are to include some of this language in the declaration.