



Washington University in St. Louis

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION STUDENT
COUNCIL (DISC)
MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 13, 2017
FLTC 211, 4:00 p.m.

DISC Meeting Minutes- September 13th, 2017

Attendees:

Kayla Berry- MSTP, CSA
Emily Sherman- OT
An Nguyen- OT
Sarah Pease- OT
Ninecia Scott- ABBGS
Derek Platt- ABBGS
Maren Loe- AMWA
Joshua Mendoza- LMSA
Kate Douglas- LMSA
Kate Gerull- AMWA
Connie Gan- 1st Year Class President
Averey Strong – 2nd Year Class President, LGBTQ Med, MSG
Lisa Stevenson- Assistant Dean for Student Diversity and Engagement
Gina Biondo- Secretary

Membership:

KB- Orientation went very well this year. There was a very large interest from OT regarding DISC membership. People who were not part of affinity groups also showed interest. How should we implement expansion?

-How big do we want DISC and/or how big can we manage?



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KG- We should keep the size relatively small to prevent dilution; too many members could delay action.

KB- Keeping the group too small could burden members with too much work.

LS- Expand membership in stages. We don't want to turn away interested people. Kayla, how did you manage the interest of OT?

KB- I took contact information of those interested and informed them that we are not currently expanding membership, but will be in contact when/if expansion is planned.

- We could expand DISC by election or by interest alone. I have mixed feelings about holding elections, but adding by interest could make DISC too large.

ES- OT has started the process of creating a Washington University Occupational Therapy chapter in the Coalition of Occupational Therapy Advocates for Diversity. It is in its very early stages, but this could absorb the extensive interest from OT.

KB- We will slowly adjust membership.



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Subcommittee Updates:

PR/Communications:

AS/NS- helped with posters for activities fairs

Website:

AN- Site is up: sites.wustl.edu/disc

Main focus is bias reporting

CG- Can we move the homepage link to the top left of the toolbar?

AN- Yes

KB- When accessing DISC website from WUMD website we are still listed as SACIC, let's update that to say DISC

KG- Where do the bias reporting survey monkey responses go?

Reporting needs access to the feedback.

AN- I am not sure where the responses go. I need to reach out to Clair and find out, because I believe she set up the survey monkey account for our website.

LS- An, after you have implemented feedback from this meeting we will arrange a meeting with Michelle, Gaia or Allison in regards to anything you may need help with completing since Clair has moved on.

KB- Adding a calendar of events to the website would also be useful



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KG- For example, some faculty and staff were unaware of Jewish holidays recently, and scheduled exams on these days. A calendar can help avoid situations like this.

KB- For now the website committee will manage the calendar, but in the future this may need to be its own subcommittee.

Reporting:

KG/JM- Could we possibly have access to the student survey questions?

LS- I have a meeting with Dorothy Andriole tomorrow to go over student survey data. We will discuss what can be shared.

KB- Last year's LCME survey was too broad, maybe.

KG- We would like to evaluate the current surveys before creating anything new.

KB- Should we get these surveys out to other groups?

NS- This would be beneficial to gather more data

KG- So we will wait until access or gathering data from LCME before moving forward with reporting and surveys.

JM- We will coordinate with the action committee on how to address any issues that are reported in the survey.



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Other Subcommittees:

Action Items and Student Group Liaisons:

KB- We need to populate the action item and student group liaison subcommittees. For those of you not already assigned to a subcommittee, please consider which one you would like to join.

AS- Filling the subcommittees should be a fluid process based on necessity. I think it is important for the subcommittee members to have a strong want/passion for what they are doing for more effective results.

KB- We can probably shift Communications/Outreach members because I feel our job is done there for now.

LS- As we expand we can also fill those groups with interested parties who are not yet DISC members.

KB- Should we wait to distribute URL?

AN- Yes, I would like to integrate the feedback from this meeting.

LS- We will also set up a meeting with Michelle to help implement any changes that Clair may have been helping with in the past.

ES- Are we also going to list subcommittees, with member and contact information on the website?



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NS- Just know that if we add pictures we need to have a deadline because that will take a long time. This happened with ABBGS.

KG- I thought we agreed to just have group names, not to have pictures on the website to alleviate time spent updating and doing maintenance.

NS- I agree that not uploading pictures would make this process much faster and easier in the long run.

Dean Stevenson: Closing Statements/Announcements:

LS- I will be meeting with Dorothy tomorrow about student survey data

KG- We would love to know the questions even if we cannot know the answers. Themes would be helpful as well.

LS- The Office of Diversity Programs has moved to Suite 1800 of the North Building. This is the old Dean's suite, located between Becker Library and the FLTC. We have a small conference space available for students to use, and it can accommodate up to 15 at a time. You can contact Gina Biondo (ginabiondo@wustl.edu) to reserve a time. We will also be having an open house in early October. We will keep you informed on the date and time.

ES- How are DISC's requests, questions, and ideas communicated to higher faculty and staff?



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LS- One possibility would be that they would be communicated to the Deans at the Education Leadership Council Meetings (which would include Senior Associate Dean Aagaard) or communicated separately to Senior Associate Dean Aagaard.

Action Items/Next Steps:

KB- We need to nudge inactive groups to attend these meetings and wean down the email list accordingly.

The next meeting can be scheduled after we have the results on the survey to report. If we haven't heard anything after 2 months have passed we will schedule another meeting.

1. Finish up website/prepare to launch URL
2. Have reporting analyze student survey data to share at next meeting
3. Hold off on membership expansion for now