



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

PRESIDENT'S TASK FORCE ON ANTI-RACISM, EQUITY & INCLUSION

MINUTES

Wednesday, November 12, 2020 | 1:00 p.m.

Zoom Webinar

Members Participating: Tom Block, Brandon Bowden, Billy Close, Kyle Doney, Michelle Douglas, Craig Filar, Stacey Hardin, Robinson Herrera, Roxanne Hughes, April Jackson, Cassandra Jenkins, Samantha Kunin, Stefany Moncada, Maxine Montgomery, Malik Osborne, Nan Rothstein, Kevin Rutois, Jay Terry, Greg Washington

I. Call to Order and Welcome

Maxine Montgomery, Chair

Chair Maxine Montgomery called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Jimmy Cole conducted the roll call and confirmed a quorum.

II. Approval of Minutes

October 14, 2020

Task Force Member Cassandra Jenkins moved to approve the October 14, 2020 meeting minutes. Task Force member Robinson Herrera seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

III. Public Comment

No public comment was requested.

IV. Subcommittee Reports

Recruitment, Retention, and Diversity Training Subcommittee

Michelle Douglas

Michelle Douglas shared that the subcommittee will be considering recommendations at the next meeting. These recommendations include a Dean's Accountability Initiative, and Under-represented Faculty Hiring Initiative, and a Faculty & Staff Recruitment Tool. The subcommittee is also reviewing diversity and inclusion training and education tools. The subcommittee will soon consider faculty and staff professional development, affinity groups, mentoring and development programs, student recruitment and retention, education and training for curriculum and academic programs.

Michelle Douglas also announced that Dr. Taylor of the Florida Board of Governors will be working with SUS institutions in EDI initiatives.



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

Campus Climate

Brandon Bowden

Brandon Bowden shared that subcommittee focused on recommendations on campus climate surveys for faculty & staff, students, and alumni. The subcommittee also is working on a recommendation for university-community events. The subcommittee continues to work with FSUPD to explore a public forum. The subcommittee will partner with the FSU History Department to support the educational module efforts.

The subcommittee will invite stakeholders from the Alumni Association, Division of Student Affairs, and Human Resources to discuss campus climate surveys. The subcommittee also plans to have the Student Body Vice President present on the Tallahassee Police Department Review Board.

Historical Legacy

Cassandra Jenkins

Maxine Jones requested Cassandra Jenkins to update the Task Force on the Historical Legacy Subcommittee. Cassandra Jenkins shared key points from the presentation from Dr. Andrew Frank on the Seminole Tribe of Florida. She recommended Task Force members to review the subcommittee recording to learn about the university's efforts regarding the Seminole Tribe of Florida.

Cassandra Jenkins described the recommendations regarding Eppes Hall and B.K. Roberts Hall.

The Eppes Hall recommendation is "The Historical Legacy Subcommittee recommends that Francis Eppes' name be removed from the College of Criminology building by January 31, 2021, and that an educational/historical record of the building having previously been named for Eppes be provided somewhere on campus. The record would include an outline of the process for reviewing the recognition and the reasoning for our recommendation that Eppes' name be removed."

The B.K. Roberts Hall recommendation is "The Historical Legacy Subcommittee recommends that the University administration seek legislative action during the 2020-21 legislative session to legally remove B. K. Roberts's name from the law school building and alternatively provide some form of contextualized recognition of B. K. Roberts somewhere within the Law School."

Cassandra Jenkins shared that the subcommittee will next consider education programs and partnership programs on FSU's history in regards to race and representation. The subcommittee will also discuss the makeup of the University Namings Committee.



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

V. New Business

Maxine Montgomery, Chair

Chair Maxine Montgomery commended Task Force members for their work. She asked subcommittees to send recommendations to the Task Force for consideration during the December 8 full Task Force Meeting. She shared that President Thrasher will present at the December 8 meeting.

She described the follow-up actions of recommendations and plans for the Spring 2021 semester. She also shared an update on the Presidential Search Advisory Committee.

Jay Terry provided an update on the CARE Program Director Search Process.

VI. Task Force Member Open Forum

Stacey Hardin asked if the Dean's Accountability Initiative will include anti-racism, diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts. Michelle Douglas explained that the subcommittee will consider these areas in the development of the recommendation.

Chair Maxine Montgomery asked Michelle Douglas to provide an update on the federal policies regarding diversity trainings. Michelle Douglas explained that FSU has proceeded cautiously under guidance from the Office of the General Counsel. Michelle Douglas' office has reviewed existing trainings. She suggested that anyone with questions to contact her.

VII. Adjourn

Chair Maxine Montgomery adjourned the meeting at 1:33 p.m.

Access this webinar:
<https://fsu.zoom.us/j/97518284803>