
Africana Studies Advisory Board Minutes

January 10, 2013

Members present: Vernon Woodley, Teresita Hunt, James Ochwa-Echel, Brandy Woods,
Rosemary Onyango, Darren Hendrickson, Charles Foy
Staff present: Connie Clarkson

James Ochwa-Echel called the meeting to order at 3:36 pm

I. Welcome & Introductions

II. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Approval of September 25, 2012 minutes tabled due to lack of a quorum.

III. Program Update

- a. James Ochwa-Echel stated the Africana Studies Program now has six majors and nine minors.
- b. James will be implementing a degree change from BS to BA for Africana Studies.

IV. Integrative Learning

- a. James, Rosemary Onyango and Felix Kumah-Abiwu took six students to the National Underground Railroad Museum in Cincinnati, Ohio.
- b. There will be a trip to the National Council of Black Studies Conference in Indianapolis, IN in March, 2013. James stated that students have been submitting proposals for the NCBS conference and the results will be heard at the end of the month.
- c. The program will also be hosting a Kwame Nkrumah Undergraduate Research Conference on Saturday, April 6, 2013 in the MLK University Union. The guest speaker will be Dr. Derrick Brooms from the University of Louisville. Charles Foy suggested having individual faculty to the framing before student speaker presentations.
James will present student awards for Africana Studies student papers and NCBS Conference attendees will also present.

V. Recruitment

James had planned trips to different community colleges last semester but was unable to travel due to health problems. He plans to travel to two community colleges this semester for recruitment presentations.

VI. Scholarship

James has reached out to alumni for scholarship donations but met with little success. Most of our recent alumni are in graduate school and the program is still seeking donations.

VII. Other Items

Charles Foy mentioned the following course proposals and syllabi:

1. Transatlantic Slave Trade
2. The Black Atlantic
3. Slavery, Race and Diaspora in the Americas (graduate seminar)

#3 was approved by CAH Curriculum Committee last semester and is now awaiting approval by the Council on Graduate Studies.

#s1 & 2 have been approved by the History Department Curriculum Committee and are awaiting approval by CAHCC, which is expected in the next two months. Charles stated that James will need to reach out to Dean Irwin regarding executive approvals for #s 1 & 2 to be included as Africana Studies electives.

James stated that Brandy Woods had inquired regarding the possibility of Honors courses for the AFR Program. James will speak with Dean Irwin and with The Dean of Honors College to see if the students would be required to take extra courses.

Brandy Woods stated the development of a new RSO attached to the AFR Program. The RSO was approved, Africana Studies Students Association (SANKOFA), and the RSO is also working on Black Heritage Month. Brandy hopes to use Black History month as a vessel to introduce students to the availability of an AFR major and minor. James stated that ASSA hosted their first Kwanzaa Celebration and it was well attended.

Brandy mentioned the scholarship and a discussion ensued.

VIII. Adjournment

Charles Foy motioned to adjourn, Darren Hendrickson seconded, motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 3:55 pm

Connie Clarkson, Recorder

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, February 14, 2013, at 3:30 pm in Blair Hall room 3108