

Cultural and Intellectual Community Council Minutes

December 4, 2019

Present: Paula Rainey, Susan Ryan, Sabrina Mazzara, Dionne Hallback, Judith Kardos, Nadirah Rivers;

Absent: Dara Whalen, Lisa Ortiz, Tabitha Dell'Angelo

1. November 20, 2019 minutes were approved
2. Student representative - Casey Shaulfer is participating on another governance council. Nadariah Rivers is our new student representative.
3. Discussion regarding a theme for the play *SWEAT*:
 - a. **Themes suggestions:** Visibility, Collective Narratives, Intersectionality, American Dream.
 - b. Should we be explicit in the prompt questions for students regarding the election year; voter rights? Incoming first-year students will be adults; their parents are working adults and voters. This is an opportunity to educate students or at least bring the discussion about voting.
 - i. Sabrina shared that reflecting on her first-year book and her goal for reading the book was from the perspective of transitioning to college. Therefore, it may be better to be explicit so students can review the play with the concept in mind about voting
 - c. We should consider giving the students a video snippet of the play along with the theme, mission and writing prompt that may help them gain a grasp of the many themes of the movie.
 - i. The Sweat Teachers's Guide listed a YouTube clip in the Sources section: Oregon Shakespeare Festival. "Snapshot: Creating SWEAT." YouTube, 18 Sept. 2015, www.youtube.com/watch?v=rbfiK6SY0H4&feature=youtu.be.
Or we can ask the Publishing Agent if they have a clip that we can use for advertising purposes.

- ii. In the clip above, playwright Lynn Notage, mentioned 'towns' and during her interviews she noticed a common theme that the residents always referred to Reading, PA in the past tense, never in the present (has been, was, etc.). This concept of towns and personal narratives is relevant to the theme of invisibility:
 1. Every student has a narrative regarding where they grew u
 2. Gentrification
 3. Now students are coming to TCNJ their 'home' for four years (residents and commuters); what does it mean to live, grown, learn, at TCNJ; how do you fit in; are you invisible?, are there parts of you as a student that are invisible (intersectionality), how to intersect yourself into the culture of TCNJ?
 - d. [TCNJ Mission Statement and Values](#) - We should use this as a guide to help us build the theme and writing prompt (i.e. TCNJ values engagement, excellence, etc).
4. General Questions:
- a. **Tabatha** can you share with the Council how many students submitted an essay, playlist and art project for the 2019 Summer Reading - No Ashes In the Fire?
 - b. Paula reviewed the charge for the committee.

Next Meeting: February 5, 2020

- Goal for next meeting to brainstorm ideas for theme, mission and writing prompt.
- Take at the 2019 Summer Reading Theme for an idea how the theme, mission and prompt were written and advertised. - <https://fye.tcnj.edu/summer-reading-2019/>
- If you have not done so, browse the [Teacher's Resource Guide for Sweat](#) for talking points, ideas, etc. -