

# TCNJ CAMPUS DIVERSITY COUNCIL

11/4/2020 ❖ Zoom/Google ❖ 1:30 – 2:50pm

## AGENDA

1. [Approval of October 7 minutes](#)
2. Update on student issues from SG representatives
3. Round table updates
4. Brainstorming potential next steps with the BLM document as well as reflections on CDC's place in Governance.

## ATTENDEES

James Felton  
Maurice Hall  
Alekhya Madiraju  
Elizabeth Wood  
Mekala Audain  
Tieka Harris

Joe O'Brien  
Victoria Swift  
Jamal Johnson  
Kerri Thompson Tillett  
Waheeda Lillevik

## ABSENT

Aniefre "Eddie" Inyang  
Nicholas Nesh

## MINUTES

- [Approval of October 7 minutes](#)
  - Approved unanimously by attending members
- Update on student issues from SG representatives
  - Pre-election event "Middle Ground" was very successful
  - Ongoing analysis of social media posts, pending meeting with Kerri on how to report the findings
  - Report on Greek Life inclusivity, perceptions of Greek members on DEI issues

- Continued planning for Black History Month
- Round table updates
  - Dean Hall asks for general sentiments given the ongoing election
  - Victoria, Alekya, and Alex report a general anxiety/dread on the part of their students and classmates, especially related to the future of American politics and the stability of their identities vis a vis the results
  - Waheeda notes that her local community is strongly pro-Trump and she already senses race-based animosity from non-POC people in her neighborhood
  - Jamal describes himself as not giving energy to the presidential election itself and remains comfortable in the state of his local community
  - Dean Hall wonders how these sentiments dovetail how CDC will position itself in short and medium term; advocates for a strong, forceful mentality
    - Jamal agrees; action > grief, and no matter the result, the work is what matters
    - James also concurs, but notes that the nature of the work must match the nature of grief experienced in the community
  - Kerri reminds CDC of upcoming IE events: N-Word with RahK Lash, and Actors, Allies, & Accomplices/Disruption with Chianti Blackmon
    - 11/10 & 11/17 and 11/11 & 11/12, respectively
  - Jamal reminds CDC to follow the PMP page and its upcoming “flags and faces” initiative; tcnj\_pmp on Instagram
    - [Also notes upcoming NCORE webinars](#)
- Brainstorming potential next steps with the BLM document as well as reflections on CDC’s place in Governance.
  - Jamal asks if there have been any administrator level updates
    - James confirms imminent launch of Anti-Racism Initiative
    - [References crosswalk document prepared by IE over summer](#)
    - Official Black History Month at institutional level forthcoming
    - Discussions begun with Sodexo about equitable/inclusive food options
    - Policy audit by CDC? Not doable this year, but development of process is

- Dean Hall asks for clarification on what the purpose of such an audit is and how its outcomes would justify its workload
  - initial triage of most problematic or potentially problematic policies by seeking stakeholder and policy manager input
- Jamal wonders how we can avoid the “governance tunnel” of policy revision approval
  - Can’t proceed without buy-in from responsible units, so collaboration will proceed at rate of trust
- Waheeda wonders if CDC is positioning itself as a consultative committee for other units as they develop policy, or as a veto point for new/revised policies working up through Governance
- Jamal notes his fear that institutional-level BHM programming will reduce autonomy/funding for student-led events since it has historically been such students that do the heaviest lifting in the planning thereof
  - James and Jamal agree that there is a faculty-student trust gap that has to be bridged; view CDC and DIE as means to do so
- Dean Hall would like to revive efforts at Intergroup Dialogue, especially in the context of current events
- Alekhya and Elizabeth suggest their DEI committee be a potential focal group
- Future communication to the campus about the BLM Action Plan; CDC owns that document, so eyes will turn to us for answers to tough questions and ongoing issues
- Waheeda wonders if CDC could carve out time for public comments during its monthly meetings; general agreement that is a good idea