

Diversity Committee

Meeting Minutes

11/2/2016

Attending:

Dr. Nicole Vaux (chair)

Ms. Rhonda Mann (member)

Mrs. Tiffany Jackson (member)

Dr. Vaux opened the meeting. Previous minutes were approved. Members missing are out of town at a conference or in a candidate interview. A discussion was had reviewing any additional demographical data received. Ms. Rhonda Mann shared that she is creating a database of high school principal's names, guidance counselor names, and student demographics of Monroe and West Monroe high schools for committee use. She also had the opportunity to reach out to Ouachita High School principal Eddie Mahoney about an upcoming spring 2017 visit to promote the program and reach out to juniors and seniors, and he said 2:00 is best, they would have the students go on shortened schedule and dismiss at 2:45. We will work with their guidance counselors to further coordinate this event.

The guidance counselor at Sterlington High School, Dollann Johnson, has also been contacted, and shared that there are several male candidates worth reaching out to, both Caucasian and African-American. Mrs. Jackson will contact counselors at Richwood and Wossmon since she has contacts there. We will divvy up the other high schools based on who has best contacts.

A suggestion was made by Mrs. Jackson to look into attrition of ULM education students. Perhaps the demographics of students and their matriculation and retention rates within in the program. We believed Karen Whittick (sp?) would be the best point of contact for the information. Dr. Vaux will ask Shalanda Stanley to reach out to her, along with finding the baseline goal, as discussed in the previous meeting.

Dr. Vaux is working with an undergraduate student worker to find incentives, resources, and scholarship opportunities, both from a student perspective and from a faculty perspective. A suggestion was made to conduct a survey, possibly Survey Monkey, with program students to elicit information about what attracted them to the program, what incentives and resources they were aware of/took advantage of, what scholarships they have received, what high schools they attended, if they are first generation, first teacher in the family, etc.

Finally, Mrs. Jackson suggested working with Plan and Explore Test information (Gear Up and Trio Program – Debbie Upshaw is in charge), as they might be a pool of students to recruit. Mrs. Jackson will look into this and invite Debbie Upshaw to attend the next meeting. Ms. Rhonda Mann will also invite Seth Hall and LaShaun Smith to attend, since they were out of town for this meeting and are working with Diversity for ULM. Also, only one student has been nominated from the blocks to serve on the committee thus far, so an email will be sent out asking for nominations.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 30, 2016.