

President's Council on Inclusive Excellence Meeting

Virtual Meeting

Friday, April 24, 2020

10-11 am

Members Present: Andrea Arrington, El-Houcin Chaqra, James O'Sullivan, Laura Froelicher, Melissa Gustafson, Polina Kaniuka, Stephannie Gambill, Szufang Chuang

Check-In: The meeting began at 10:03 to allow others to join the SKYPE call. Members of the Council were asked to provide a check-in since ISU began practicing social distancing: good news, feedback, and updates. Each shared information:

James: Doing fine. Working with students. Fall 2019 enrollment cohort- good number enrolled.

Laura: Honors College- celebration- working on virtual new student orientation.

Melissa: Library busy. Questions regarding copyright since we're working from home.

Andrea: Trying to keep students on the right track to finish while managing 2 young children at home.

El-Houcin: We're doing good. Working with international students. Organized meeting of CGA and College of Technology. Concerned for students, can they return this fall?

Stephannie: Report of domestic violence up. Request to reach out to students- look closely at essays and other non-verbal information.

Melissa: Staff in library had difficulties.

El-Houcin: Grades- will satisfactory and unsatisfactory impact the graduate school? Change to on-line has been hard to adjust to. Lack of resources to do work online.

Szufang: Main concern for students- satisfactory and unsatisfactory grades. Look at several factors.

RJ: Provided an update. Very intentional transition back to campus. Plexiglas will be installed in specific areas, and by request, throughout ISU. Cleaning of buildings continues to take place while individuals work from home.

Mental Health Discussion: We must also consider the mental health services that will be important now, as well as when we return to campus- for both students as well as the workforce.

Someone mentioned that the ISU mental health/counseling center continues to be open with staff accepting calls.

Virtual Commencement Update: Graduation will be held on-line May 16:
<https://www.indstate.edu/academic-affairs/commencement>

Fall 2020 Culturally Relevant Pedagogy Series: The collaborative partnership between the Office of Affirmative Action, and the Center for Teaching Excellence, will continue the series this fall] will take place:

- August- International Community Awareness Month
- September- National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month
- October- Hispanic Heritage Month/ LGBTQIAP History Month
- November- Native American Month
- December- Call to Action for ISU Faculty & Staff

President's Council on Inclusive Excellence Award Nominations/Award Ceremony:

- Student Groups and Organizations
- Administrators, Faculty or Staff

RJ discussed the spring/fall nomination and ceremony and mentioned that covid-19 may prevent the council from holding the ceremony. A discussion occurred, and Stephannie suggested deferring the conversation until the awards committee met (Dan, Rick and Stephannie). Andrea stated that the luncheon ceremony was very nice last fall. Others agreed.

Fall Meetings:

RJ stated that plans were underway to schedule council meetings for the fall. The next virtual meeting will be held this fall, on a Friday from 10-11:30 am. Date-TBD. President Deborah Curtis will be invited to attend the first meeting.

Other Business: Members shared several suggestions-

- Continue the special focus on various departments across campus. Invite other departments/individuals from across campus to share information
- Have a conversation with Advancement/Foundation and inquire about funding to help promote diversity (request from El-Houcin).
- Members of the group expressed concern about having students continue to work from home- many do not have the resources needed to complete classes on-line.
- Members concerned about DIGITAL DIVIDE for ISU students/workforce.