

Minutes of the October 29, 2020 meeting of the Yavapai College President's Equity Task Force

Tri-chair Emily opened the meeting with a discussion around meeting times. Various options were mentioned with challenges from one or more TF members with each. Faculty members were still not certain on the impact of the Spring semester on their schedules.

Decision to keep the same 9 to 10 a.m. on Thursdays was made for now and the suggestion for TF members who miss a meeting was to listen to the recording of the meeting and then email the TF with comments, ideas and suggestions or even questions.

Emily asked the group about what they thought of the homework involving the Center for Urban Education. Jerald mentioned that he thought the page of definitions was helpful for us as a group as it gets us all on the same page with what those terms mean. It was mentioned also that the several links that were provided contain a lot of information and it will take additional time for the group to digest this. It does appear that there is consensus that the information in these links will provide tools and strategies for accomplishing our short and especially our longer term goals. The TF was encouraged to continue reviewing the information on this site and in the various links for further discussion.

In reference to the various obstacles that stand in the way of Equity - Ty mentioned that it is difficult to talk about race. This was echoed by other TF members. Specific information on this would be helpful. Sukey posted in the chat box area that on Friday, October 30th, the book club offering is about talking about Race.

Bradi mentioned that it seems and feels like our goals are all over the board and we could discuss consider which specifics the TF can and should adopt for now.

Diane did mention that how faculty addresses equity will be considered in the academic master plan going into the future. Emily also stated that the strategic planning group and mission/vision/and values group will consider equity as they develop the college plans.

The remainder of the meeting focused on MLK Jr. day, January 18th, 2021. Much discussion about the various events being planned or held by the City of Prescott, Prescott College, and even Embry Riddle. Whether or not we should join those events and not hold our own, or join those events and hold one here at the college as well. All TF members are very interested in being a part of the activities of that day to celebrate the legacy and life of MLK Jr. and how his legacy fits so nicely with our own civility and respect campaign and what we hope to have here at YC.

Ty mentioned a concern with the Prescott College march this time as it could be hi-jacked by activists who do not hold civility or respect as their goal and one reason why we should hold our own march and event here at the college as we can control to some degree that it would be a civil and respectful event.

The guest speaker idea, Kelly Wright from the National Black News Network, as a virtual or in person speaker was supported by the TF and will now go to a final approval by the ELT on

Monday, November 2nd. Discussion about his appearance and message being offered up in a larger audience for the entire community for just the YC community took place.

Amber mentioned the idea of a candle light event as part of the various activities being discussed that for that day and Sukey mentioned we could use the electronic style candles for such an event.

It was mentioned we could advertise all the various events taking place in and around our campus so that the YC members could choose which ones they wish to participate in.

Thatcher mentioned that he has participated in the Prescott College march and the after march events at the Methodist Church and that the afternoon activities are related to service, to giving back. The YC Community may wish to participate in those service areas.

A one page proposal for Name Coach will be presented to Dr. Rhine and Rodney by Sukey and Bradi??

The native lands statement will be distributed to PETF for input. Dr. Rhine will be initiating discussion with the Tribe early in the year.

Several TF members made comments in the Chat area of this zoom meeting, they are copied here:

09:18:47 From Suzanne Waldenberger : Hello, Everyone,

The first meeting of the YC Employee Book Club will be this Friday, October 30th at noon. The Zoom link for the meeting is: <https://yavapai.zoom.us/j/99319656513>

We will be discussing Ijeoma Oluo's book, So You Want to Talk About Race?

If you would like to receive an Outlook invite for the meeting or if you would like to be added to the Slack discussion book for the group, please email Laura.Cline@yc.edu.

09:21:46 From Bradi Rhodes : Oh my gosh no worries at all! I fully agree with what you said Ty!!

09:26:32 From Mike Ruddell : Race is a 19th century concept. That is part of the problem. I strongly suggest reading "The Salt Shakers Curse" by Jared Diamond to that there is a biological/genetic application to "race"....

09:30:48 From Suzanne Waldenberger : The concept of race is also baked into contemporary American culture, so as erroneous as the concept is, it is something we have to address.

09:32:31 From Mike Ruddell : I completely agree. It is so archaic when you consider all of the diaspora that has occurred since the 19th century.

09:43:31 From tpayne01 : Like every other event locally other groups have taken it upon themselves to hijack events and turn them into something the event was not intended. It is

unfortunate but it is true. This years event downtown will have a different look and feel. Not to mention the safety aspect of the current climate.

09:45:33 From tpayne01 : A early evening event is a great idea for staff, faculty and students.

10:03:59 From Gwendolyn Payne : Name Coach is awesome.
here: