

SJHR Steering Committee Meeting Notes

2 December 2016

1. Welcome and Introductions by Dawn Alford, Anne Cubilie, Skye Field, Susana Flores, Nancy Graber Pigeon, Chuck Reasons, Maureen Rust, Aimee Quinn, Francesco Somani, and Barb Flanagan

2. Outline of Proposal to the Provost

Barb explained the goals and intention of the draft proposal to the provost. The proposal seeks to get support from the provost, both financial and institutional. Barb explained that this was a draft and she welcomed feedback on the proposal. If members of the steering committee have information that they think is important in the draft (~2-3 pages) then please send that information to Barb at flanagan@cwu.edu by 12/19.

Afterwards Mark noted that he and others had a number of process concerns. He noted his and others frustration and alienation with the process. Mark indicated that he did not think that Barb should write a proposal without first getting feedback from Anthropology and other units on campus.

Barb explained that she was seeking feedback and that the proposal needed to get to the Provost in early January because the Provost would be making financial decisions in January for the following year. Since there is no funding for 2017-18 at this point, Barb explained that funding needed to be secured. In addition, a foundation and a governance structure needed to be established so that whoever is in charge next year does not have to spend Fall quarter working on these issues.

Susanna noted that while she understood Mark's concerns, we needed to move forward and that the proposal was vague enough that people could provide feedback. She also noted that we can invite additional people into the process and they can decide if they want to take part or not.

Mark then noted that he and Anthropology had serious concerns about the lack of community engagement in the proposal.

Barb noted that section C on the second page addressed community engagement and that if Mark had language or ideas that he thought important he should send those thoughts to Barb by the 19th.

Aimee Quinn asked about a discussion board or blog page where the community could be engaged and suggested that the library might be able to help.

Susanna suggested getting more student involvement and community partners on the steering committee.

Mark stated that the framework did not make any intellectual sense and noted that the process was too bureaucratic. He said that people will not be engaged if they feel there is excessive constraints.

Barb noted that the language in the framework was consistent with the language and practice of human rights and human rights activists.

3. Funding Process and Budget

Barb described the funding process that the executive committee was using and the current state of the budget for the committee in an effort to be transparent.

Mark noted that there was too much bureaucracy and that the forms were too time consuming. Chuck said that he hated forms but the form was not too bad.

Barb noted that we had not excluded people from participating and that no one who had requested assistance had been denied.

Susanna said that she was going to bring in a speaker in January and did not ask for money because the deadline had pasted. Dawn asked if the language about deadlines could be relaxed a little bit.

Barb explained that the deadlines existed because various things need to happen before an event can occur namely that paperwork needs to get taken care and publicity needs to know about events.

Judy noted that conflicting events were a problem and that no one would show up if there were too many events on the same day.

Anne said that we need to be able to plan in advance but we also need to be flexible.

4. Subcommittees

There was a discussion of additional subcommittees. We need a subcommittee for funding which Aimee volunteered for. We still need a subcommittee for student engagement and perhaps Keith can help with that. Mark suggested a subcommittee for community engagement and he and Susanna volunteered for that.

Barb asked that when the subcommittees meet please inform the executive committee about what progress you have made. She also asked if the subcommittees have information for the provost proposal to let her know.

5. Calendar

Here are the tentative events for Winter that are being supported by the SJHR theme:

- i. 25 January: [J Hennessy] Film Black 150
- ii. 28 January: Workshop by Northwest Immigrant Rights Project [Reasons]
- iii. 31 January: Cabico (poet) [X Cavazos] SURC Theatre
- iv. 7 February: Film Abused ICE Raids [Reasons] Black 151
- v. 21 February: Dialogue with Latinx teachers [Amos]
- vi. 22 February: Film [J Hennessy] Black 150: The Joy Luck Club
- vii. 24 February: Immigrant Voices: A musical exploration of the immigrant experience and identity. [G Blaisdell] Recital Hall.

Additional events that are being developed by steering committee members include:

- 25 January [Susanna Flores] Presentation on impact of new administration on immigration. {Additional information to be distributed.}
- Several migration-related events at the Museum during Winter 2017: January 11 at 5:30 pm. Opening reception of “The Things We Carry: Migration, Movement, and Objects”. Feb. 3 at 5:30 pm. Tracing Ashley’s Sack: A Mystery of the Great Migration. Lecture by Dr. Mark Auslander. Feb. 16 at 5:30 pm. First Migrations: What new DNA Research Tells us about the Human Peopling of the Earth. by Dr. Joe Lorenz. February 23 at 5:30 pm. Staged reading of the play ‘Undocumented’ by Seattle based immigration attorney Margaret O’Donnell. Reading organized by Theater Arts faculty member Matt Chapman.

6. Webpage Update

Dawn informed everyone that the webpage was now live and linked to the Provost’s page. Barb thanked Dawn for all of her hard work on the webpage. In order to let the campus know about the webpage and additional events, Barb said that she would send an email out the first week of Winter quarter.

Any additional information that steering committee members would like incorporated on the webpage, please send the information to Barb and she will forward it on to either Dawn or Valerie.

Mark asked if executive committee was vetting the webpage because he had heard this. Barb explained that she was simply passing on the information. She said she did not want Dawn to receive a ton of emails, so Barb was going to collect them and pass them on. Barb simply did not want Dawn to get overloaded.

Maureen suggested that getting events on the calendar would help faculty prepare for classes.

7. Event Update

Anne thanked everyone who helped with Jan Techau's visit. She said that it went well and hopefully there will be more speakers in the future.

8. Library Resources

Maureen noted that a library guide had been developed.

9. Other items

Mark said that he wanted a public event on sanctuary cities/campuses including a discussion about CWU. Chuck suggested that Mark do something in the spring since it would fit with the focus on human security.

Susanna talked about how much fear she had heard about potential changes in the new administration and that she was bringing in a speaker to address these issues.

Mark noted that he was frustrated with the email that President Gaudino sent out that Linda Schactler had drafted. He would like the university to take a different stance and that there was a draft proposal for the Faculty Senate on this issue.

Barb suggested discussing this issue at the next Steering Committee meeting on January 6th. This was agreed upon by other steering committee members.

Francesco noted that Univision and the Atlantic had produced a map of sanctuary cities and discussed the language that is used and sometimes lost in translation.

Dawn noted the migration of students from some states to others with regard to higher education.

The meeting ended at roughly 3:15. The next Steering Committee meeting is on January 6th at 2:00 in Barge 412.

Proposal for the Provost: The Future of the Social Justice and Human Rights Dialogue

Goal: To strengthen the Social Justice and Human Rights Dialogue (SJHR) now in its second year and to institutionalize it throughout CWU. We seek to weave the SJHR dialogue throughout the fabric of the university.

Introduction

Purpose of a yearlong theme: Deliberative themes focus on a specific topic to provoke contemplation and dialogue on the human rights and social justice challenges that face our campus community and larger community. We want to foster an interdisciplinary discussion throughout the campus and larger community that explores a SJHR topic from a variety of perspectives in order to encourage open discussion and critical thinking. We want to foster a common intellectual conversation about a pressing contemporary issue.

CWU's Social Justice and Human Rights Dialogues focus on one pressing social justice and human rights concern throughout the academic year in an attempt to educate and empower students, faculty and the larger community. This series understands social justice to be foundational to the positive realization of human rights for all peoples around the globe. Human rights, as defined through the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and subsequent documents, are essential to living a life with dignity. These fundamental rights incorporate a number of basic liberties and include the right of all people to live lives free from discrimination. The realization of these fundamental rights demand an interdisciplinary range of skills and approaches to address urgent social issues related to human security, labor, migration, children, family, education and the environment. As such, social justice aspirations are inherent in the promotion of human rights.

Past and Current SJHR Themes:

2015-16: Mass Incarceration

2016-17: Migration

2017-18: Sustainability

Summary of the SJHR Migration Theme:

In the fall we would explore the history and political aspects of migration in an attempt to understand the causes and consequences of migration. In the winter we would then connect the experience of migration (in its various forms) to an individual's identity and to communal identity. Lastly, in spring we would focus on how to promote human dignity and human security in the context of migration. Human security in the language of human rights activists incorporates the basic human rights to a life with dignity and it also includes issues that involve a sustainable environment. This would help transition to next year's theme.

To be successful the SJHR dialogue needs to be interwoven throughout the university.

A. Academics:

- a. General Education: contributes to effective citizenship
- b. Deans of Colleges: need to give support and commit to working with SJHR
- c. Departments and classes
- d. Douglas Honors College
- e. University Centers

- f. Potential Development of Interdisciplinary Minor
 - g. Orientation and University 101
 - h. Study Abroad Programs and OISP
 - i. One Book Program
 - j. Undergrad Research Opportunities
 - k. Experimental Learning Opportunities
 - l. Inclusivity and Diversity: This yearlong theme connects to CWU's efforts to promote inclusivity and diversity.
 - m. Library
- B. Student Life
- a. Student Activities
 - b. Center for Diversity and Social Justice
 - c. Center for Leadership and Community Engagement
 - d. Housing
- C. Community Engagement
- a. External Community relationships
 - b. Organizations: Local, State, National, International (if applicable)

To accomplish these goals we need to do the following:

- A. Establish a governance structure
- B. Secure funding
- C. Get buy-in from various units
- D. Greater visibility (webpage, social media, VP for PR)
- E. Curriculum Development

Discussion of Benefits to CWU: One of the benefits according to Linda Snetselarr, Associate Provost for Outreach and Engagement at the University of Iowa is “the importance of a program that unties diverse people over a single topic and removes them from their silos.”¹

Contributes to high-impact practices

¹ <https://theme.uiowa.edu/about-us/our-story>