

## MEETING SUMMARY

### UTSI Multi-Cultural Advisory Committee Meeting

August 22, 2014; 9:00-10:00 a.m.; Lower B Conference Room

Present: Patricia Burks-Jelks (Chair; UTSI Director/Equity & Diversity Officer), Stuart Steen (Co-Chair; UTSI SGA VP of Activities and Dorm Resident Assistant), Dr. Jackie Johnson (President, UTSI Faculty Assembly), Dr. Reza Abedi (Faculty), Dr. Anusonti-Inthra Phuriwat (Faculty), Jorge Damian Parra Martinez (Student), Javad Seif (Student), Leo Bonner (Staff), Brenda Brown (Staff)

- **Welcome new committee members:**

Dr. Jackie Johnson (replace Dr. Ahmad Vakili): President UTSI Faculty Assembly

Javad Seif (fill student vacancy): Student

Leo Bonner: Staff

Stuart Steen (replace Sabrina Hurlock): SGA VP of Activities and Dorm RA

- **Approval of May 29, 2014 meeting summary**

The committee approved the summary of the May 29, 2014 meeting. Great Team!

- **Diversity Survey**

Stu shared a draft of a Diversity Survey with the committee he created with the help of Survey Monkey. The purpose of the survey is to find where our organization stands in regards to diversity and inclusion and to look closer at what is or isn't working on campus. This survey is intended to help the committee find strengths and weakness within all groups on campus.

The proposed survey consists of four sections: 1.) Background 2.) Attitudes and Actions 3.) Campus Experiences 4.) The Campus as a Welcoming Environment. Further information will follow.

To distribute the survey on campus, the committee must receive approval from the UTSI Executive Director and the University of Tennessee Legal Department in Knoxville. A suggestion was made to have the survey a part of the out-processing procedure for employees and students. More discussions will follow in the next meeting.

- **Open discussion of faculty, staff and student diversity and inclusion issues at UTSI**

A new Equity and Diversity webpage has been added to the UTSI Human Resources website:

<http://personnel.utsi.edu/EquityDiversity.html>

The UTSI SGA website is in the middle of a major overhaul: New features coming soon.

<http://sga.utsi.edu/>

- **Focus/Work Group Assignments:** Further discussions will follow after the September workshop

Recruitment (Jorge and Dr. Abedi)

Retention (Stuart and Patricia)

Academic Success (Stuart and Patricia)

Professional Development (Brenda Brown)

- **Miscellaneous:**

Fall Diversity and Inclusion Workshop: Friday, September 19, 2014 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. in Room H-111. Lunch will be provided for attendees. Ms. Sally Parrish from UTK will facilitate session.

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 24, 2014**

**Meeting Time: 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM**