President’s Advisory Committee on Building an Inclusive Community (PACBIC)

Wednesday, March 22nd, 2017, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Gilmour Hall, Room 111 (Council Chambers)

Meeting Minutes


Invited Guests: Dr. Patrick Deane, President and Ms. Esme Davies, Senior Advisor to the President

Equity and Inclusion Office: Craig Foye, Raihanna Hirji-Khalfan, Meaghan Ross, Khadijeh Rakie (minutes), Vilma Rossi, Pilar Michaud, Michelle Poirier

1) Welcome and Introductions. Ameil opened the meeting with a welcome to President Patrick Deane, Esme Davies and participants and by acknowledging that McMaster University sits on the traditional Territories of the Mississauga and Haudenosaunee Nations, and within the lands protected by the "Dish With One Spoon" wampum agreement. (ref: IEC May 2016). Participants were then invited into an introductory round.

2) Approval of Minutes, February 22nd, 2017

- The February 22nd, 2017 minutes were approved as previously circulated.

3) Conversation with the President, Dr. Patrick Deane

- President Deane was given a list of questions from PACBIC prior to the meeting. The following points were discussed:
The mandate and aspirations of PACBIC has evolved over the years and will continue to evolve. The Terms of Reference come from the Presidents’ Office and should be constantly discussed and reviewed.

PACBIC is an advisory committee that should work to translate campus concerns into practical actions that positively impact the running of the institution. PACBIC should provide tangible advice that is sought and welcomed.

PACBIC working groups should use their expertise to influence change on a structural level within the institution.

There should be people in every department working on equity and inclusion implementation at McMaster University.

PACBIC has a great role to play at McMaster and a working group should be created including members of PACBIC, President Patrick Deane, and Provost David Wilkinson, to continue working on equity and inclusion at McMaster.

- Ameil reviewed some of the recent and important PACBIC work that has resulted in substantial institutional, systemic, and structural changes at McMaster including contributions to the DHSH Policy, the recommendation for the employment equity specialist and hiring, and the SVRC, the proposal of a VP equity and inclusion, the sexual violence policy, RISO and the current work on the accessibility policy, and supporting dozens of events related to equity and inclusion across campus and in the community.

4) Working Group Updates & Reports, as needed: - deferred due to time limitations

- Accessibility, Disability and Ableism
- Employment Equity
- First Nations, Métis and Inuit Priorities (FNMI)
- Inter-Faith Issues
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Queer + (LGBTQ+)
- Madness, Eugenics, Discrimination, and Saneism (MEDS)
- Race, Racism and Racialization (R3)
- Violence Against Women/ Gender-based Violence (VAW/GBV)

5) Adjournment and Next Meeting: The meeting was adjourned at 11:30. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 25, 2017 from 9:30am – 11:30am in the Council Chambers.