

## April 12, 2018 Equity & Diversity Committee meeting minutes

### Equity & Diversity (EDI)

**General Purpose:** REVIEW, DELIVER, EVALUATE: a campus culture that promotes equity and embraces diversity for all constituents at Finlandia; building a culture of inclusion

In attendance: Rene, Alyson, Leann, Ryan, Janice, Haley

Missing: Jan Woodbeck, Claudia

- I. **Google Drive:** Haley will create the new drive and send invites to committee
- II. **Continuing on Committee in AY2018/19:** Rene will send to Fredi the list of those who want to continue (all in attendance indicated yes).
- III. **Film Series**
  1. **Job Assignments:** Some of these tasks for the September film will have to be completed before the semester begins (starting in early August). The job assignments are for the whole academic year:
    - ◆ Reserve room – Ryan (confirm with Jason S.)
    - ◆ Order popcorn/drink – Alyson
    - ◆ Order film(s) – Janice. In addition: Talk with Rebecca about a location and cataloguing of films in the library
    - ◆ Set up film showing – Rene (see checklist for tasks)
    - ◆ Marketing – Haley (see checklist for task)
    - ◆ Line up discussion leader – Leann
    - ◆ Promoting to faculty and others as credit event for students – Claudia. Talk with coaches about team building requirement for first film
  2. **Films:**
    - ◆ **Sep 20:** “Kicking it”(2008) – homelessness as an international struggle; homelessness and addiction; raises the question about who has access to sports (and the money involved with it). Soccer teams are in attendance (can speak to the issue of “pay to play” and how that favors kids from money).  
Facilitators ideas:
      - a. New soccer coach and Jordan Andrews? (access to participation in sports – globally & locally)
      - b. a representative from the local homeless coalition
    - ◆ **Nov 8:** “North Country” (2005) – 1984 landmark sexual harassment lawsuit won by female MN mining company employees. Pay disparity; harassment; job insecurity; changing corporate policy. Story of 1<sup>st</sup> successful sexual harassment class action law suit against a corporation.  
Facilitator ideas:
      - a. Dr. Gee or profs who have connections with League of Women Voters or have active participation in the democratic process.
      - b. maybe local female candidates for the mid-term elections
    - ◆ **MLK 2019:** “When We Were Kings” (1996) – A film about the 1974 “Rumble in the Jungle” fight between M. Ali and G. Foreman. Conscientious objectors/political activism; Extravagance in the midst of poverty; Africa and the black American connection/disconnect; cross-cultural insensitivity; ignorance and stereotypes about Africa.  
Facilitator ideas:
      - a. Dr. Knobloch (political history of the 70’s); Rene (Africa)
      - b. maybe local female candidates for the mid-term elections
    - ◆ **Apr film:** “Laramie Project” (2002) – Members of a NY theatre troupe interview Laramie, WY townspeople following the 1998 murder of gay UW student, Matthew Shephard. Hate crimes; culturally validated discrimination; ideas of patriotism/nationalism/religious identity.

Facilitator ideas:       a. Dr. Bourdage (on sexual/gender diversity)  
                                  b. someone brave enough to speak from their own experience of  
                                  discrimination as gay/lesbian

- a) Film starts at 6:30 (doors open 6:15).
- b) Movies saved for AY 2019-2020: "13<sup>th</sup>" – systemic violence against blacks; mass incarceration; "A Beautiful Mind" – mental health; being extraordinary; "Frida" – feminism; ethnic relations.
- c) Criteria for films: Films are meant to highlight positive perspectives on marginalized (oppressed) communities, generating awareness, self-reflection, and discussion.

**ANNOUNCEMENT: Diversity Dinner: \$10, 5-8 pm (free for students). 7 ethnic varieties**

**Next meeting:** Fall semester 2018. Meetings will be held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month, 12:00-1:00. Meeting in Finlandia Hall conference room.