

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF BLACKS
November 2, 2020

Members Present

Margo Dirkson	Charria Campbell	Arthur Banton
Robert Owens	Nathaniel Coleman	Krystal Akehinmi
Thomas Heard	Holly Mills	Rosemarie Black
Daniel Allen		

Members Absent

Ted Pelton	Troy Smith	Daniel Badoe
Joshua Egwuatu	Katrina Ibezim	Gregory Holt
Qiera Bentley	Harry Ingle	Nicole Williams
Simone McKelvey		

Proceedings

The Commission on the Status of Blacks met on Monday, November 2, 2020 using the Teams Meet format. The meeting was called to order by Margo Dirkson at 3:03pm.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved. Rose Black made the motion. Holly Mills seconded it. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes from the October 5, 2020 with corrections was made by Holly Mills. It was seconded by Daniel Allen. The motion carried unanimously.

Proceedings

New Minority Faculty and Staff Assignments

Margo Dirkson is waiting for an updated list of Minority Faculty and Staff from Human Resources. Once that list is received, she will email it to CSB members. Anyone who has already reached out to a new Minority hire from the previous list is appreciated. Those CSB Members who have not made any contacts are encouraged to wait until the updated list from HR is emailed to the membership in the coming weeks.

The members of the Multicultural Affairs Alumni Advisory Council (MAAAC) Had planned to join this meeting. Unfortunately, that was not feasible. Ms. Franklin, Chair of MAAAC, and other MAAAC members plan to join the December 7th meeting at 3pm Central Standard Time.

MLK DAY and Week of Service

Monday, January 18, 2021 is the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of celebration. TTU classes will not be in session at that time. Krystal Akehinmi stated she liked the idea of volunteering and having a time of service to honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Other suggestions included: speaking to Michelle Huddleston of the Service Learning Center about ways to serve there, having a prayer breakfast, and including a voter's registration campaign during the annual Alpha Phi Alpha silent march on Tuesday, January 19, 2021. Margo also stated that status and guidelines of the COVID-19 situation will play a major role in how the MLK plans progress.

Black History Month

Simone McKelvey suggested having a calendar listing of events for the entire month. Other suggestions were: showing a film series (that is approved by the copyright policies), as well as showing the movie "Hidden Figures". Charria Campbell added that Ada Haynes of Center Stage may have some extra funds that may be used in securing programs.

Chat and Chew

November 17, 2020 is the date agreed upon where CSB and others would eat lunch together in a virtual format. Margo design the flyer and provide it to Ms. Campbell or Ms. Johnson to distribute.

Other Such Matters

It was suggested by Charria Campbell that if there was going to be a committee formed to work on MLK Day activities, that it be formed before Thanksgiving so meetings can be scheduled.

"Race to Tech" takes place on Friday, November 13, 2020 from 9am – 1pm. This is an event where incoming freshmen can gather information and ask questions about TTU. The Office of Multicultural Affairs is participating as well as several Minority student groups.

Adjournment

A motion was made to end the meeting by Krystal Akehinmi. It was seconded by Arthur Banton. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting ended at 4:01pm. The next meeting will be on December 7, 2020 at 3pm. The meeting will be held through Teams.