

PROCEDURES
COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF BLACKS

I. Name:

The name of this commission shall be the Commission on the Status of Blacks

II. Purpose:

It shall be the purpose of this commission to advise the President of the University on matters of concern to Black faculty, staff, and students, and to promote awareness and programs of interest to TTU Black persons.

In pursuing this purpose, the Commission will endeavor to:

- A. Improve the quality of life for Black faculty, staff, and students.
- B. Promote the hiring and promotion of Blacks through the evaluation and use of TTU Affirmative Action Plan and other employment and promotion programs.
- C. Make recommendations regarding recruiting, retention, and extra-curricular activities.
- D. Promote the development of the Black Cultural Center.
- E. Serve in an advisory capacity to the Black Cultural Center Board.
- F. Strive to promote more positive attitudes toward Blacks and Black issues.
- G. Submit an annual report to the Administrative Council.
- H. Promote educational offerings which pertain to Black issues.

III. Membership:

A. Composition of the Commission: The Commission on the Status of Blacks shall consist of a minimum of fifteen (15) members, representative of the general campus, appointed by the President of the University from among the following constituencies:

- 1. Faculty -a minimum of three (3)
- 2. Administration -a minimum of three (3)
- 3. Students -a minimum of two (2)

4. Staff -a minimum of two (2)
 5. Additional members from any of the above areas.
- B. Terms of Office: The President of the University shall fill any vacancies by appointment. Non-student members will serve three-year terms on a rotating basis. Student members will serve one-year terms.

IV. Officers:

- A. The Chairperson shall:
1. Preside at all meetings or designate another member to preside.
 2. Prepare a tentative agenda for each meeting, to be distributed at least three (3) working days prior to the meeting.
 3. Approve the minutes of the meeting to be distributed to the Commission members.
 4. Call special meetings when necessary.
 5. Appoint *ad hoc* subcommittees as needed.
 6. Execute policies and actions of the Commission.
- B. The Vice Chairperson shall:
1. Carry out the specified duties of the Chairperson in the absence of the elected Chairperson.
 2. After one year's service as Vice Chairperson, this officer shall automatically succeed to the Chair for the following year. S/He shall function as Chairperson during the first meeting of the Fall term.
- C. Staff support shall be provided by the office of the Vice President for Student Services.

V. Meetings:

- A. One regular meeting of the Commission on the Status of Blacks shall be held on the third Friday of each month during the regular academic year. The date and time for such meeting shall be included on the Administrative Calendar.

- B. The Chairperson may call special meetings when such action is deemed necessary.
- C. Any member may submit items to the Chairperson for consideration by the Commission.
- D. The agenda shall be adopted at the beginning of each meeting by a majority of those members present.
- E. One half of the members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum.
- F. Attendance at Meetings: If a member of the Commission must be absent, s/he may send a representative with full voting privileges if that representative is from the same office or constituency as the member. With the commission's approval, the Chair may recommend to the President of the University a member's removal from the Commission because of excessive absenteeism.

VI. Parliamentary Authority:

The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the Commission in all cases in which they are applicable.

VII. Amendment of Procedures:

These procedures may be amended at any regular meeting of the Commission by a vote of two-thirds of the present members, provided that the proposed amendment has been submitted in writing to each member at least one (1) week prior to that meeting.

VIII. Effective Date of Implementation:

These procedures shall become effective January 1, 1990.

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF BLACKS
December 8, 2014

Members Present

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| Melissa Irvin | John Brooks | Steve Smith |
| George Chitiyo | LaNise Rosemond | Lance Jasitt |

Members Absent

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| Harry Ingle | Wali Kharif | Josh Smith |
| Vickie Copeland | Andrew Bleignier | Robert Owens |
| Radir Anoor | Lisa Zagumny | Andrew Bleignier |

Visitor Present

Tisheika Snow from TTU Environmental Residence Hall

Proceedings

The Commission on the Status of Blacks met on Monday, December 8, 2014 in the Leona Lusk Officer Black Cultural Center conference room. The meeting began at 3:08pm. Quorum was not met so a discussion took place.

The original plans for Martin Luther King Day had to be changed because a very similar event was already planned and scheduled on January 16th. Also prospective speakers were not available at this time. Lance Jasitt provided the group with a handout entitled "Project Toolkits" that may be implemented in honor of this day. Robert Owens suggested having a speaker and round table discussion about violence against Black men that is in the media today. New plans discussed included:

Share excerpts from Dr. King's "Letters from a Birmingham Jail". Invite students and adults to read sections of the letter with a visual presentation of past and present occurrences.

Discuss the role of religious leaders in demonstrations. Reverend Dirksen from Trinity Church in Cookeville was suggested. He and others will be invited.

Have a round table discussion where each table is given a question to discuss and share with the group. The participants will be asked what the question means to them or how it affects them.

The United Voices of Praise choir will sing several songs at the event.

Tisheika Snow from the New Hall North Environmental residence hall suggested having an environmental and/or service project going on at the event. She will contact Kaitlyn Salyer in the Service office regarding this.

Other suggestions for service projects for the event included filling backpacks for school children's weekend meals, collecting school supplies, collecting can goods as well as an outreach initiative for Veterans.

The Martin Luther King celebration is scheduled to be held in the Multipurpose Room on January 19, 2014. CSB members are asked to think of a theme for this event.

Adjournment

The discussion ended at 3:39pm. The next meeting will be Monday, January 26, 2015 at 3pm in the Black Cultural Center.