



DEI Committee

Meeting Minutes

May 11, 2023, 2:00 pm

Meeting called to order at 2:01 pm by chair

Present: Robert James, Chair (Nash CC); Elizabeth Baker, Secretary (Carteret CC); Nathan Stancil (Johnston CC); Touger Vang (Montgomery CC); Don Michael (Central Piedmont CC).

Absent: Colleen Kehoe-Robinson (James Sprunt CC); BJ Thompson (Central Carolina CC); Barbara Bera (Central Carolina CC); Liza Palmer (library advocate).

Agenda:

- Welcome new committee member
- Review/approval of minutes April 13, 2023
- Assignment from NCCCLA Executive Board (April meeting)
- DEI Surveys
- DEI webinar on book bans/challenges
- Digital literacy training
- ACRL Cultural Competency for Academic Librarians
- Additional topics

Discussion Items:

- **Welcome new committee member**
 - Don Michael from Central Piedmont CC joined the committee.
 - Don is the Digital Literacy Specialist for Central Piedmont CC's Learning Technology Services.
- **Minutes** from April 13, 20223
 - Touger made a motion to approve the minutes. Nathan seconded the motion.
 - The minutes were approved.
- **Assignment from NCCCLA Executive Board**
 - The NCCCLA Executive Board is planning to review and revise its bylaws. The Board has asked the standing committees to do the same.
 - Robert asked the committee to review the DEI Statement and DEI Committee Bylaws and to be prepared to make updates and changes if necessary.
- **DEI Surveys**
 - Robert reported that the NCCCLA Executive Board does not need to approve the surveys before they are sent out. However, the Board wants to be informed before they are administered.
- **DEI webinar on book bans/challenges**
 - There was discussion of the committee hosting a webinar on book bans and challenges. Robert reiterated that the Executive Board would need to be informed about the webinar, but it would not need to approve it.
 - The committee could use NCCCLA's Zoom account to present the webinar.

- Robert invited the group to think about speakers. He suggested assembling a panel of speakers. The committee could start gathering the names now. A date could be selected after the speakers were chosen.
- Robert stated that 3-4 people could be invited to speak about 15 minutes each. There could be a question and answer session at the end of the panel discussion or at the end of each speaker's session.
- Nathan suggested inviting someone who has been through a book ban or challenge. Elizabeth suggested inviting Tim Hunter to the panel because of his presentation at the NCCCLA conference. She thought that he would make a good moderator for the webinar, and he could introduce the issue. Don suggested the webinar tie the legal aspects of a ban or challenge. He suggested inviting someone who could speak on constitutional law, free speech, and the Bill of Rights. Elizabeth suggested inviting someone from the law libraries at Duke or Campbell Universities. Law librarians often hold a J.D. as well as an MLS.
- **Digital literacy training**
 - Don initiated a discussion on the need for digital literacy training. He raised three questions. Who is responsible for faculty training? Who is responsible for staff training? Who is responsible for student training?
 - Without a centralized place for student training, this task often falls to libraries. Libraries regularly receive high level technology questions from students seeking help. People from three colleges shared their experiences with this issue. Their responses generally stated that they helped students to the best of their abilities and then sent students to their college's IT departments when the help needed was beyond library staff expertise.
 - Don questioned why there is no money for digital literacy training for students. Many colleges are unwilling or unable to fund student digital literacy training. The Digital Equity Act provides money for this training, which libraries could use to enhance the teaching and learning of digital literacy.
- **ACRL cultural competency for academic librarians**
 - Robert asked the committee members to look at ACRL's cultural competencies before the next meeting.
 - How could these diversity standards be incorporated in the inclusive library services toolkit? Should they be endorsed on the DEI page on the NCCLA website?
- **Additional topic**
 - Robert asked the members if there was anything else that they would like to discuss.
 - Elizabeth said that the group had covered some big topics in the meeting. The group has six months to a year's worth of work ahead. This meeting's discussion provides a good road map for the coming academic year.

Action items:

- Robert will send the link for the next meeting in June.
- Elizabeth will share the meeting minutes.
- The group will decide how and when to distribute the surveys.
- The group will review the ACRL Cultural Competency standards.

Next meeting: June 15, 2023, 2pm

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm by chair

Notes recorded by: Elizabeth