

## UNIVERSITY SENATE ANNUAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Name: Senate Diversity Committee 2015-2016

Number of Meetings Held this Year: nine

Committee Chair: Julie Mallory Church

Committee Members: (list here)

Mallory Church, Julie- Chair	<b>Lanza-Gladney, Maria E</b>	<b>Varela, Tomas C</b>
<b>An, Shan</b>	<b>Mills, John T.</b>	<b>Walpole, MaryBeth</b>
<b>Abrams, Lisa</b>	<b>Nia-Schoenstein, Asadeh</b>	<b>Williams, Denise; CWA Rep</b>
<b>Beckam, Kaila</b>	<b>Park, Sun Young</b>	<b>Dickinson, Jenna Dorothy; SGA rep</b>
<b>Carrasquillo, Marci L</b>	<b>Raiff, Bethany Ruth</b>	
<b>DeFelice, Katarina Aleea; SGA rep</b>	<b>Salvante, Mary C</b>	
<b>Guiteau, Gardy Joseph</b>	<b>Schug, Seran E</b>	
<b>Joy, Sandra</b>	<b>Strasser, Daniel S</b>	

***Purpose of/Charge to Committee: Monitors diversity throughout all areas and for all members of the Rowan University community, with special attention to issues of social justice; recommends practices and policies that will enhance diversity at Rowan; and assists in the development and establishment of such practices and policies.***

### **Summary of Activities this Year:**

1. Towards establishing baseline data for future committee recommendations, SDC **developed an online research survey and focus group on students' perceptions and experiences of Rowan's climate-** sponsored **by** Sun Park and Asi Nia-Schoenstein (Fall 2015; ongoing project with intention to submit for IRB approval)
2. Invited **Tobey Oxholm** to address the university's commitment to diversity and developing a cooperative relationship for future diversity initiatives; 2/4/16
3. **Supported Claudia Rankine** reading for **President's Lecture Series**; 2/11/16
4. **Sponsored Dr. John Jackson, Dean of Social Policy and Practice, University of PA** who presented : **Microaggressions and Community Building**, hosted by Seran Schug and JT Mills; 2/19/16

5. Recommended approval of the **Senate Diversity Statement** that was revised and approved by the University Senate.  
Further: “The Strategic Priorities Council discussed the diversity statement yesterday and endorsed not only the statement itself but also the idea of incorporating the entire statement into the Statement of Principles.” Roberta Harvey
6. Reviewed, per request of Tobey Oxholm, the university-wide **Policy on Preferred Names** before it was widely distributed.
7. Institutionalized the **Excellence in Diversity Award for Faculty and Staff** through its inclusion in the **Annual Celebrating Excellence Dinner**
8. Sponsored the **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Excellence in Diversity Awards Ceremony for faculty, staff, and students** as part of the SJICR **Diversity and Inclusion Week**
9. Revisited the **2010 GAP Report of the Educational Trust Fund- with** MaryBeth Walpole @ the 2/16 meeting with follow up of invited special guest, **Rory McElwee**, to discuss the 2016 **Educational Trust Fund Report** and Rowan’s GAP status and anticipated improvement variables and future suggestions; 4/ 26/16

-use additional pages if required

**-do not include suggestions & recommendations with this report - use separate form for recording purposes**

**UNIVERSITY SENATE ANNUAL COMMITTEE**  
**SUGGESTIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS**

2015-2016

**SUGGESTIONS:**

Next year should begin with a look at the current charge of the committee. The charge needs to evolve with the changing practices of assessment and the changes being made at Rowan in terms

of assessment. The IERP and the committee need to work closely together and support one another.

Suggestions for the future of the committee include working with IERP in the development of a systematic and continuing assessment practices.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Director of Assessment should continue to participate on the committee so the committee stays informed and the Director may share ideas and occurrences regarding assessment.

Some committee members attended an assessment conference at the beginning of the school year. Attending the assessment conference was beneficial in that we had an idea of what other universities were doing and how they were doing it regarding assessment. If possible, it would behoove the committee members and continue to give us a big picture on what is happening and broaden our perspective of how we could best serve Rowan.