

Western Illinois University Anti-Racism Task Force  
Meeting Notes  
Friday, September 9, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.  
Multipurpose Room in the Multicultural Center

Present:

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Unable to attend:

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A. Discussion began with reports from subcommittees related to what happened since we last met. Some committees were able to meet over the summer and some were not. Discussion about the charge for the committee, where we are, and where we are going took up most of the meeting time.

B. The following items/action plans were approved:

1. Curtis Pointer (WIU Graduate Student and WIU Undergraduate Alum) was appointed to replace Johna Lawens.

2. A new subcommittee structure was approved and subcommittee membership was slightly altered due to the restructuring. Essentially, a new "Student Success and Retention" subcommittee was formed. The new subcommittee structure now includes the following 5 subcommittees:

**Effective and Sustained Communication**

**Access and Inclusion**

**Student Success and Retention**

**Curriculum**

**Faculty & Staff Retention and Promotion**

3. Sterling Saddler has returned full-time to faculty and Carl Ervin, Interim Director of JIDE and the Multicultural Center will be the new co-chair of the ARTF.

4. New subcommittee membership list:

The Core Council

President's Senior Leadership Team

TaskForce Co-Chairs (Lorette Oden and Carl Ervin)

**Effective and Sustained Communication**

Darcie R. Shinberger Co-Chair

Ted Renner Co-Chair

Derek Watts

Jerel Jones

Ariahanna Hightower

**Access and Inclusion**

Kishor Kapale Co-Chair

Macherie Placide Co-Chair

Rob Jeter

Michelle Narvaez

Carl Ervin

**Student Success and Retention**

Merrill Cole Co-Chair

Tim Johnson Co-Chair

Tracy Davis

Fifi Godwyll

Curtis Pointer

**Curriculum**

Jim LaPrad Co-Chair

Rebekah Buchanan Co-Chair

Barry McCrary

Devon Bradley

**Faculty & Staff Retention and Promotion**

Lorette Oden Co-Chair

Heather McIlvaine-Newsad Co-Chair

Hector Maymi-Sugranes

Jalen Carlos

5. Subcommittee meetings should convene as soon as possible using the following guide:  
“The WIU Task Force's first objective will be to identify anti-racism initiatives and advise/support the creation of the University's Diversity Plan.”

In order to implement these objectives, the following suggestions for moving forward are offered:

- a) Reflect on the objectives and gather subcommittee members' views and ideas. Discuss where we have been, where we are and then brainstorm ideas for moving forward
- b) Identify who (individuals and groups) needs to be included in terms gathering data (e.g. focus groups, interviews) about effective anti-racism initiatives and ideas to integrate into a University Diversity Plan.
- c) Gather data related to possible anti-racism initiatives and the creation of a University Diversity Plan.

- d) Review what SIU-E report said.
  - e) Report subcommittee progress by the last day of each month. Send (at least) monthly reports to the TaskForce Co-Chairs and Effective and Sustained Communication Co-Chairs regarding meetings, groups or individuals who the subcommittee has met with, and any appropriate details to share publicly.
- 6) ARTF Co-Chairs will schedule the next ARTF meeting and invite the Provost's team to address the ARTF and respond to questions.