



**President's Commission on Diversity
March 6, 2008
Room 306 Main Building
Minutes**

Members Present: Lori Gonzalez, Chester Grundy, Bessie Guerrant, Vanessa Jackson, Sara Jones, Jane Kirschling, Rob Mullens, Lionel Williamson, Jeff Dembo, Sharon Taylor New, Chris Harper, Allan G. Richards, Alvin Seals, Isabel Taylor.

Members Absent: Drucilla Bakert, Patty Bender, Mary Bolin-Reece, Ibrahim Jawahir, Michael, Lee, Richard Sutphen, Karen Slaymaker, Mahjabeen Rafiuddin, Lina Crocker, Gail Hairston, Rakesh Kandibanda.

Welcome and Call to Order: **Allan G. Richards**

Dr. Richards called the meeting to order at 11:45 a.m.

Thanks to the committees for the hard work they have done and continue to do. March 25th has been set as the deadline for each committee to submit their outcomes and indicators to prepare for the last two meetings of the Commission so they can start working through the assessments.

Approval of Minutes: **Allan G. Richards**

A motion to approve the minutes of the February 14, 2008 meeting was made by Lori Gonzalez and seconded by Lionel Williamson. The minutes were approved by a unanimous vote with no changes.

Chair's Report **Allan G. Richards**

The President's Diversity Awards ceremony is scheduled for April 17, 2008 at 4:00 pm and will be held in the Lexmark Room, Main Building. The Commission has contracted with Hasan Davis as the keynote speaker for the ceremony. Mr. Davis is a lawyer, educator, youth advocate and actor. He founded Empowerment Solutions in 1998 following his position as the director of the Youth Violence Prevention Project for the city of Lexington, Kentucky. As a consultant/trainer for government, school and community groups, Mr. Davis' primary focus is on issues of youth development, community empowerment and cultural respect. Mr. Davis was recommended to the Commission by Dean Lori Gonzalez.

President's Awards for Diversity

There have been a total of 26 nominations submitted for the Diversity Awards. The number of nominations by category are:

- UK Faculty Members (5)
- UK Students (9)
- UK Staff Members (5)
- UK Administrators (4)
- Other Individual or Agency in Kentucky (3)

Bessie Guerrant created a scoring form for rating the nominations. The scoring form will be an internal document used in the selection process. It was suggested and agreed upon that the scoring form will be changed to reflect an overall total of 75 points in the Criteria section and to not show a break down of the points within this section. Dr. Richards asked the committee chairs or their designee to volunteer to be on the diversity awards review committee. This committee will be lead by Bessie Guerrant. The deadline for reviewing the award nominations is March 18, 2008. The committee's decision on the award winners selected will be recommended to the President for final approval. Any PCD members who have submitted a nomination are asked to refrain from being on the review committee due to a conflict of interest.

Undergraduate Student Affairs

Mary Bolin-Reece

The committee met and has identified and finalized the student outcomes for all strands as indicated and are working on preparing their final report.

Graduate and Professional Student Affairs

Jane Kirschling

The committee has identified the indicators and outcomes for the strands as assigned and will review the information gathered in preparation for their final report.

Faculty and Staff Affairs

Vanessa Jackson

Committee is in the process of condensing the large amount of information gathered from their interviews for their final report.

Engagement and Public Relations

Richard Sutphen

The committee is still conducting interviews.

New Business

Allan G. Richards

There is ongoing thought on the future President's Awards for Diversity ceremony and how to revamp this event so that it is a campus-wide event that will mobilize the campus in moving toward a diverse and inclusive culture. The goal is to bring in powerful and dynamic speakers who will give a boost to inspire and create a more diverse culture. The goal also is to get the community informed and involved. The more involved and supported the community becomes the greater benefit it will be to the institution as well as to the community.

Adjourn:

Allan G. Richards

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Lionel Williamson and seconded by Vanessa Jackson. Meeting adjourned at 1:50 pm.