

UTC Chancellor's Multicultural Advisory Council  
October 31, 2017

**MINUTES**

PRESIDING: MS. STACY LIGHTFOOT, CHAIR

I. Welcome

- Chairwoman Lightfoot welcomed all who were present.
- Chairwoman Lightfoot recognized two new CMAC members:
  - Chris Earl, Principal at Howard High School
  - Troy Kemp, Executive Director for the National Center for the Development of Boys
- Chairwoman Lightfoot mentioned the meeting program would be *Conversations Across Differences* and would be followed by small group discussions.
- Those students, faculty and staff members invited to participate in the discussion were also introduced by Chairwoman Lightfoot.

II. Purpose

- Chancellor Angle thanked the students, staff and faculty who joined the CMAC meeting to participate in the table discussions. The Chancellor indicated that these conversations are important and we can learn so much by listening to the different perspectives. He also said we want our campus culture to be one that embraces change and diversity.

III. Conversations Across Differences

- Chairwoman Lightfoot then introduced Dr. Mo Baptiste, Executive Director of Student Development, and Dr. Michelle Deardorff, Political Science and Public Service Department Head. She also framed the *conversation* by encouraging the group to willingly share their thoughts and feedback stressing that this is how we can make a difference.
- Dr. Mo Baptiste and Dr. Deardorff discussed the culture and subcultures on campus and how they affect students.

#### A. Table Discussions

- Stacy Lightfoot introduced Jonathan Butler, Manager of Neighborhood Services and Development for the City of Chattanooga in the Department of Economic and Community Development, who facilitated the *conversations* based on the questions below.
  - How do you have conversations across differences?
  - How do we support and prepare students to have and negotiate conversations across differences?
  - How do we support and prepare faculty to have and negotiate conversations across differences?

#### B. Next Steps

- Mr. Butler indicated the next steps would be compiling the information from the table discussions to identify themes, action points and connections. These will be reported back at the next meeting.

#### IV. Announcements

- Congratulations to Dionne Jennings who has been named the Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion at Tennessee Valley Credit Union.
- Congratulations to Dr. Bryan Samuel on the success of the “Moving Our Campus Forward” conference held on October 17<sup>th</sup> at UTC. Ron Harris was the keynote speaker.
- November 1, 6:00 pm, Derthick Hall 101 – The Honors College Book Club will be hosting a discussion of Bryan Stevenson’s book, *Just Mercy*, featuring Jonathan Kubakundimana, Program Assistant of the Equal Justice Initiative, and moderated by Dr. Victoria Bryan, Honors Program Director at Cleveland State Community College.
- November 6, 6:00 pm, University Center Auditorium – Dr. Emilye Crosby will present “Beyond Textbooks: Civil Rights Movement History from the Bottom Up.”
- November 6, 7:00 pm, University Center Multicultural Center – Jordan Roberts, President of Alpha Phi Alpha, announced the “Taking Back Our Thrones” event.
- November 6 and 7, 4:00-5:00 pm – The Honors College Council will host Professional Development Program a seminar. This announcement was directed to the faculty in attendance.

- November 8 – Sue Culpepper, Director of the College of Business Student Success Center, mentioned the “externship” leadership program on the BlueCross BlueShield campus for first generation students from UTC. This program will acquaint students with professions and job fields with BCBS.

## V. Closing

- Chairwoman Lightfoot thanked everyone for their time and input.
- Please note the Holiday Party will be on Tuesday, November 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm in the University Center Tennessee Room.

In attendance:

**CMAC Members**

- Jonathan Butler
- Chris Earl
- Nicole Gaines
- Joyce Hardaway
- Ron Harris
- Bassam Issa
- Dionne Jennings
- Troy Kemp
- Stacy Lightfoot
- Warren Logan
- Travis Lytle
- Patrick Miles
- Maria Noel
- Veronica Peebles
- Manny Rico
- Reggie Ruff

**UTC Students**

- Simone Edwards
- Alondra Gomez
- Caleb Hearn – SGA Representative
- Adeola Ijiyode
- Blake Kitterman
- Jasmine Liev
- Tucker McClendon
- James Meyers
- Jordan Roberts
- Rachel Smith

**Special Guests**

- Doug Brown
- Donna Lawrence

**UTC Staff & Faculty**

- Jerald Ainsworth
- Steve Angle
- Mo Baptiste
- Richard Brown
- Laura Cagle
- Sue Culpepper
- Michelle Deardorff
- Terry Denniston
- Linda Frost
- Shewanee Howard-Baptiste
- George Hynd
- Theresa Liedtka
- Laura Livermore
- Tara Mathis
- Shekila Melchior
- Daniel Pack
- Bryan Samuel
- Mina Sartipi
- Joanie Sompayrac
- Niky Tejero
- Darrell Walsh
- Mark Wharton
- Jill Woodruff
- Ann Yoachim