Diversity Committee mtg minutes 1.15.2021

Present:
Patrizia Pallaro, Chair
Norma Caruso, Linda Hopkins, Andi Pilecki, Ran Zhang

Absent:
Dio Turner, Wanda Ghahoui, Chris Thomas

Agenda
- Approval of November minutes

1) New Chair - Any nomination from the committee?

2) Diversity Committee workgroups:
- Book
- Seminar
- Community and agency outreach

Discussion

November minutes approved

1) New Chair
Patrizia’s term as Chair is overdue to end. In thinking about a replacement, the committee likes the idea of Andi Pilecki taking over and she is eager to do this—but she is not yet faculty. So we discussed the idea of Patrizia staying on as chair with Andi as special assistant until she becomes faculty, probably in the fall—or trying to get a special exception so that Andi could be chair now even though she isn’t faculty.

2) Diversity Committee workgroups
The idea of having subgroups in our committee seems impractical at this point. We discussed choosing one goal and work together on it. While the ideas of a book based on our October conference as well as a seminar on diversity were presented to the Steering Committee and they liked them, we focused our discussion on a possible seminar series. We envision our entire IPI community of learners (students and faculty) having the opportunity to participate in teaching if they so wished. One thought is to have six meetings with 2 sessions each on race, diversity and social class. We will continue to talk/think about this.

New business
The ICTC is almost finished with preparation of core curriculum and readings, which include many suggestions from our committee. However, there is not a clear mechanism for how that list might be updated. This should be a topic of discussion at the April faculty meeting. Fielding requests for advice in selecting pertinent
readings or citations has been a task performed by the chair of this Comm. Should the Chair continue to carry out this function or someone else in this comm?

Patrizia will send out an email to ascertain a good time for our next mtg.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Hopkins