

CEDI Leadership Board Minutes
February 18, 2021
3:45-5:00 p.m. via Zoom

Present: Present: Sindy Fleming, Carolyn Fure-Slocum, Shaheer Jaffar '24, Danny Mathews, Jen McMurray, Al Montero, Éva Pósfay, Steve Richardson, Laura Riehle-Merrill, Asuka Sango, Miiko Taylor, Trey Williams, Chico Zimmerman, Elise Eslinger (Advisor)

Welcome, approval of minutes from 1/21, 2/4, and 2/11

The minutes of the 1/21, 2/4, and 2/11 meetings were approved without changes.

CEDI as Communications Hub

Following up on recent CEDI conversations about communication, Steve Richardson proposed a message to students providing details about the antiracism series in which staff and faculty are engaged. CEDI members expressed support for this idea and advised keeping the communication brief and readable, pointing students to the antiracism website if they'd like more information. Jen proposed sharing about the large group meetings and topics and the existence of the affinity groups. Asuka suggested emphasizing that this is just the beginning of these efforts and that there will be more work beyond, according to the plan CEDI adopted.

The group also discussed communications more generally: How often would we communicate to students? How much is too much? Too little? Discussion yielded a recommendation that once a term seems about right, perhaps an end-of-term wrap-up each term. Then people know to expect an update at that same time each term. The group affirmed this plan and the desire to send an update message before the end of Winter Term.

Steve suggested building this in as a regular part of our agenda to see what is needed in terms of communication and making connections (focus on what we're hearing and who else needs to know).

CSA Updates

It's election week for CSA. Platforms are online. Indigenous Peoples' Alliance is restarting.

Miiko's term as Forum rep ends at the end of winter term, though he may run again.

What's Happened Since Our Last Meeting?

IDE Steering Committee is meeting tomorrow with the consultants to determine the focus groups. They will wait to do faculty and student groups until the beginning of spring term; alumni groups will happen sooner. It's likely that CEDI will be selected as a Focus Group. There will be an online questionnaire to gather input from others who are not able to participate in focus groups.

The Student Activities Office held its fourth First Generation panel (this one included staff for the first time). It went very well. Rhemi Abrams-Fuller, Rae Horton, and Deanna Haunsperger were panelists.

The Leadership Board discussed some of the staff and faculty reactions they were hearing to the first affinity group sessions; there was some confusion about the introductory assignment and some awkwardness in figuring out how to navigate discussion in the small groups. While there were concerns expressed about how this was going to work, there were also reports of positive interactions and appreciation for the encouragement to consider these issues.

CEDI then entered a closed session for the remainder of the meeting

Next Leadership Board Meeting:

March 4, 3:45-5:00 p.m.