

BIAS RESPONSE GROUP

MEETING MINUTES

MARCH 10, 2010

Attendees: Randy Abreu, Emma Blumer, Rochelle Calhoun, Herb Crossman, Winston Grady-Willis, Don Hastings, Mariel Martin, Lori Parks, and Mary Stange.

The meeting convened at 10:03a.m.

MEETING MINUTES

The minutes were approved with two changes.

INCIDENT REVIEW/STATISTICAL COMPARISON

Regarding the February 7, 2010 incident, it was determined that there was not enough information available to determine that this was a bias incident. No alert will be sent to the community. It should be added to the Web site report.

Regarding the November 24, 2009 incident, the committee determined that no alert will be sent to the community; it will not be added to the report.

A statistical review of incidents from September 2008 to May 2009, and September 2009 to date, provided the following information:

Bias Statistics for 2008-2009 **21 total reports***

Gender:	8
General:	4
Race/Ethnicity:	2
Religion:	3
Sexuality:	6

Bias Statistics for 2009-2010 **11 total reports* as of 03/10/10**

Gender:	7
Race/Ethnicity:	5
Religion:	1
Sexuality:	1

*Some incidents targeted for multiple dimensions of identity (i.e. gender and sexuality)

The number of bias incidents is higher in the fall semester; is there a correlation between community education (through bias incident alert e-mails) and the reduction of incidents in the fall semester? Also noted is the number of bias incidents brought before the Integrity Board: zero to date; last year there were three. The committee will review information again at the end of the spring 2010 semester; planning for next year will reflect the committee's findings. It was recommended that community education regarding bias should begin early in the fall semester.

JANUARY RETREAT FOLLOW-UP

A date and time have been set: April 14, 2010 from 10:00a.m. to 12:00p.m. This replaces the one hour meeting previously scheduled for April 14 from 10:00a.m. to 11:00a.m. Res Life, Campus Safety and Bias Response Group staff will attend.

The intricacies of multiple departments dealing with bias issues on campus were discussed. Each office's responsibilities play a key role in how the staff "handles" a bias incident. At the retreat, the group will discuss appropriate responses to a bias incident (incorporate training basics).

It was suggested that the group discuss January retreat plans/needs during the month of October so that speaker arrangements can be made as early as possible.

SPRING PROGRAM UPDATES

- Student panel is all set; tabling in Case Center has resulted in some good questions to initiate the conversation.
- Barbara Smith will visit on March 22; the event will take place in Gannett at 7:00p.m.

BRG FINANCIAL NEEDS

Rochelle and Winston did talk about budget needs. It should also be noted that CIGU also is operating without a budget.

The meeting adjourned at 11:06a.m.

Meeting minutes are respectfully submitted by Mary Davis.