

Provost Council on African American Affairs Meeting
March 1, 2023 (11-12:00 pm)

Attendance:

Members: Interim Provost Campbell; Jamie Bronstein; James Hall; Patrick Turner; James McAteer

Guest: Rick Marlette; Dean Iwasaki Yoshi

Patrick: A brief historical perspective was shared with the group to provide Rick and Yoshi with a summary of the student protest, a list of demands, and decisions surrounding the development of the Africana minor.

After further conversation, **Rick Marlatt** suggested a January start date for the tenure track position who will supervise and manage the African minor. There have been some adjustments made due to the departure of some committee members. Also, Pam Grey (co-chair of the search committee for the tenure track position) can no longer serve due to other responsibilities.

Yoshi: Confirmed that the mission, purpose, intent, and research goals of the African minor align with the overall mission of the College of HEST. Therefore, it makes sense that the minor resides within the college. He also reiterated the start date for the tenure track position should be moved to January.

It was decided that the Africana minor would be housed under the School of Teachers Preparation, Administration, and Leadership (TPAL). However, possibly later, if it made sense, could possibly move under BEST (Borderland and Ethnic Studies). BEST is okay with the plan for moving forward.

Tenure Track Search Committee

The council stated the hope is for a diverse and robust search committee to be selected that is reflective of the Africana minor.

It was decided that Jamie Bronstein would serve on the search committee for the African minor to ensure there was representation for the council.

Erica Reid's (Visiting Instructor-African Minor) contract ends in December and the new tenure track position starts in January. Erica may or may not be interested in applying for the position.

Efforts

- What can be done now in the meantime while the position is being created and during the search process?
- Continue to identify courses and electives in other departments that complement the Africana Minor
- Make sure existing courses are accessible in canvas for new incoming instructors to access?

Campus Communication

- **Yoshi** mentioned there could be a strategic and systemic process of communication headed by HEST to promote the minor to generate interest and course enrollment. Create a marketing campaign.

Next Steps for the Committee

All committee members agreed that the continued development and life of the council are vital to the direction of the Black culture, advocacy, education, and visibility on campus.

Official bylaws need to be created to ensure that the establishment of the committee is solidified. The council's mission supports social mobility, student success, and achievement. (Patrick will start looking into this and sharing it with Jamie and other members)

It was suggested to work with Shelly Stovall to get numbers on Black faculty at NMSU. Outreach can be made to recruit members for the council.

Official Documentation:

Information can be found in the ARP about setting up committees and councils