

CAL Diversity Council Minutes January 17, 2018

Appointed Members:

Chair: Heather L. Scheuerman scheuehl@jmu.edu Justice Studies

Members:

Jennifer Byrne	byrneje@jmu.edu	Political Science
Stephen Chappell	chappesx@jmu.edu	History
Beth Eck	eckba@jmu.edu	Soc/Anth
Frances Flannery	flannefl@jmu.edu	Phil/Rel
Adrienne M. Hooker	hookeram@jmu.edu	SMAD
Yenisei Montes de Oca	montstesyx@jmu.edu	Foreign Languages
Elizabeth Pass	passer@jmu.edu	WRTC
Isaac Woo	woocw@jmu.edu	SCOM
Gregory Wrenn	wrenngj@jmu.edu	English

Sitting Members:

Chris Arndt arndtjc@jmu.edu Interim Dean of CAL

In attendance: Heather L. Scheuerman, Stephen Chappell, Adrienne M. Hooker, Yenisei Montes de Oca, Elizabeth Pass, Isaac Woo, Greg Wrenn, Chris Arndt, and Daisy Breneman and Bill Hawk (invited).

1) The Council is working on updating the CAL Diversity website by providing: a) a link to the Office of Access and Inclusion and the Office of Equal Opportunity; and b) feedback on a list of CAL Diversity Resources. This document will be uploaded to the website on February 1, 2018.

2) Bill Hawk (Madison Collaborative) and Daisy Breneman (Justice Studies) discussed how the [8KQ](#) can be used to inform decision making in the classroom and beyond. JMU is unique in its emphasis on ethical reasoning. The Madison Collaborative has found that implementing the 8KQ in the classroom improves the ethical reasoning and critical thinking of students, fosters a community of learners, and enhances student accountability.

Specifically, the 8KQ can be integrated into a course multiple ways, including individual units of the course or as the entire framework of the course. In addition, the 8KQ can be used to create community guidelines and norms that promote a culture of ethical decision making. This tool can proactively address issues that relate to the classroom more generally (e.g., Should I do the reading?) and to diversity. It does so by helping students recognize that situations and decisions have ethical considerations. For instance, the use of the 8KQ can foster conversations regarding free speech and hate speech by encouraging debate and dialogue rather than shaming and restrictiveness. In the process, students are able to express themselves in a way that recognizes the complexity of situations and how certain ethical considerations may be at odds with others.

The Madison Collaborative is looking for more opportunities to expose students to the 8KQ. This can be done by incorporating this framework into an academic program or having special event workshops.

Additionally, the Collaborative offers a variety of funding opportunities for faculty who wish to more fully engage with the 8KQ. The first reflects a research grant application that enables faculty to empirically assess how ethical reasoning can be used in the classroom. The second is an opportunity for faculty to serve as a fellow for the Collaborative. For more information, please see: <https://www.jmu.edu/mc/getinvolved/index.shtml>.

Faculty who wish to more fully integrate the 8KQ in their courses should contact the Madison Collaborative or Daisy Breneman (brenemdl@jmu.edu).

3) Heather Scheuerman recounted key highlights from the Diversity Council Chairs Meeting. Art Dean and David Owusu-Ansah from the Office of Access and Inclusion are available to assist departments and Colleges in understanding issues related to diversity.

Upcoming event:

March 22, 2018 – Dr. Anthony Schlaff, the next Viewpoints on Health speaker, will lecture at 5:30pm in HBS 5040. Dr. Schlaff is the lead author on an impressive policy statement issued by the Association for Prevention Teaching and Research, to address the “Role of Academia in Combatting Structural Racism in the United States.” Here is a link to that document: http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/www.aptrweb.org/resource/resmgr/Racism_Policy-Membership-201.pdf

Respectfully submitted,

Heather L. Scheuerman