

**Chancellor's Advisory Committee on
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Cultural Safety**

Zoom Invitation Link:

Friday 1/26/24, 10:00am - 12:00pm

☀ Meeting Agenda with Minutes ☀

[DEICS Committee Webpage](#)

[DEICS Committee Shared Google Drive](#)

Last month's (12/15/23) meeting [Agenda](#) and [Agenda with Minutes](#)

This meeting [without Minutes](#)

This meeting's Video Recording

In Attendance (quorum is 8, with 14 total voting members):

- Grace Roller, Math Trafton, Melissa Dolese, Jay Szczepanski, Davina Cole, Colleen Ianuzzi, Carin Silkaitis, Nathan Bodensadt, Kailey Pritzl, (Devin Tatro), John Ingman, Louisa Cryan, X'unei Twitchell

Not in Attendance:

- Kimberly Matsuura, JoMarie Alba

Guests:

- Heather Batchelder, Mitzi Anderson, Kolene James, Devin Tatro

MEETING AGENDA

- 1. Statement of Intention:** This meeting starts with the reminder that we are all equals in this committee, and that many or all of us may sit in a position of power and privilege in different ways or in different subjects and we should all meditate on our own possible biases and work to consciously set them aside. Additionally, this meeting is a place where our humanity, our emotions, and our differing thoughts, are allowed and should be honored, respected, and made space for by one another. Finally, we are all encouraged to take a moment to reflect on the geographical places we are located and the history and people of those lands.
 - a. At any time, any committee members can add a request to discuss, rethink, and/or revise this statement during our meetings

- 2. Agenda Business and Logistics**
 - a. Volunteer to take notes?
 - b. Consent to record meeting? (This committee does not fall within OMA, Open Meetings Act, since all members are employees; however, recordings are still subject to public records request.)

- 3. Guests**

- a. [Heather Batchelder](#), Professor of Education, Program Coordinator: Special Education
 - i. In the student group Wooh.teen, there was a discussion led by students about their experiences with discrimination or racism. From that, students asked if there could be an effort, in conjunction with staff/faculty, to address these issues. Heather and Kolene are working with the students to develop a plan (based on their comfort and interests)—to connect students with DEICS committee and CACANE to share experiences in a safe space, like a student fishbowl exercise. From there, students will determine where they want to go next (perhaps related to an event at convocation, and perhaps in connection with Title IX). Volunteers to help with this effort and attend the student groups are welcome (Fridays 1-2pm; send an email to [Kolene](#))!
 - ii. X'unei: While it's not the responsibility of this committee to take action, it does become more of our job to act when the university fails to take responsibility. The University needs to stop the pattern of Institutionalized Racism. Kolene agrees and thanks X'unei. Math invites them to join again.
- b. [Mitzi Bolaños Anderson](#), Director of Equity and Compliance/Title IX
 - i. Started in October, came from Iowa Demoy, but loves Alaksa :). Working on hiring another person for the department. Works with different complaints and keeps track of Protection of Minors. Open to feed back. Please reach out. Would like ideas of Programing as well. Would like to listen in on the meeting.
 - ii. Math would like to work and get prospective on the new DEICS website.

4. Important Updates or Announcements

- a. UAA's [Diversity Action Council](#)—inactive (Math said they may become active again soon and starting to build connections)
 - i. [UAA Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan](#)
 - ii. [Chief Diversity Officer Jennifer Booz](#)
 - iii. Faculty Senate [Diversity Committee](#)
- b. UAF's [Diversity & Inclusion Advisory Council](#)—inactive (Math said they may become active again soon and starting to build connections)
 - i. Just announced a Chief Diversity Faculty Fellow ([Retchenda George Bettisworth](#)) with hopes to rework the council's work
- c. CACANE Updates
 - i. X'unei: Haven't met yet this semester. Did meet with Chancellor. What does the future look like, how much money indigenous groups bring in, no full answers yet? ANCSA-call for emergency, wants more than a nice

report. Look at structural changes. CACANE first meeting to talk about priorities and what we do now. Wanting to bring in Graham and Linda Smith :)

- ii. Carin question: Experts from New Zealand, wants to help facilitate. Grants and cash... Arts & Sciences will offer funds to help. Offering Travel person to assist. Allocate funds, and invoice SHI to spend out the grant. Partner also with CELT and CACANE to help get them to Juneau. Kailey Pritzl said Website ideas from new Brenna Heintz. Is interested in the group.

5. Discussion Items (hoping next meeting we will have more final draft of priorities for Chancellor)

a. Change in our UAS DEICS Committee Membership

- i. Ketchikan Staff Representative (someone stepped down)
- ii. Dean of Students:
Jenny left in October, Devin started in October and will be Disability Services Manager and Accessibility. Nathan is working on getting Devin added to Committee with Aparna.
- iii. What are your intentions for AY25?

b. DEICS Committee Annual Retreat (Friday 3/29, 9-5pm)

Carin Update: Travel is being down by individuals coming from Ketchikan & Sitka. Glacier View Room reserved. Davina to follow up on rooms for Ketchikan folks. Catering in the works.

- i. Agenda Items? Wants to have similar agenda and have draft ready for next meeting before the retreat.

c. AY24 Priority #2: [Website Revision Worksheet](#) (in [Priorities folder](#) in shared drive).

- i. Review 31 items in the [Recommendations](#) sheet
 - Working in spreadsheet linked starting at item 12
 - Carin had a meeting with Maren and they really talked about the provost website. Provost would like help on a mission statement for website. Would like Faculty feedback on the website as well
 - Looked at Chancellor website too. Would like a overall welcoming inclusive and belonging message for this one too.
 - Kailey: The SRC page needs a lot of work :) Will work with Brenna now that she is here! :) Nathan has questions about what the SRC will be called or. And one stop will be taking over some tasks. Kailey will work with Brenna and Lori to work on this large task for Student resources. Add native demographic information to website? :) looking for more ideas as well that may be interesting

to future students. Safe Zone training clarification. Add retention information. Connect to the recruitment calendar.

Tuition waivers for vet and other areas need better clean up too. :)

- Jay: Update on Financial Aid site.
- Kailey: Update on Counseling website. Adding features. Carey updates site often. Nathan; Update about new offerings coming soon! :) vendor “Timely Care” available early March.
- Math: Update on Office of Equity & Compliance, suggestions could add more welcoming and phone and email more promenade. :)
- John: Update on Career Education main page. Maybe add welcoming statement, but overall site looked good with inclusion and language.
- Carin: Update on A&S page, would like to take to Chairs and what they are looing for. Sees lots of areas for improvement. :) need linkage between pages. Navigation is unclear. :) told the provost office UAS isn't “clickable” Devin question about outdoors studies, Proof UAS isn’t clickable. Kailey asked if she can update her tours or ask questions.
- Request from Melissa to change photo representing Social Sciences [School of Arts & Sciences \(alaska.edu\)](http://School of Arts & Sciences (alaska.edu)) (will bring up at next department meeting to get changed) also suggests student focus group work to get insite. Math spoke with Jennifer Gross about something similar as well.
- John likes this method of review to get better idea about what were really looking for when reviewing our websites. :)
- Melissa: Faculty senate meeting next week. Will update later.

Math will get started of the recommendation memo that will encompass all suggestions and action items needed to make improvements.

- ii. Draft material in the [UAS DEICS Webpage](#) doc (Kimberly, Grace, Louisa, Melissa, and X’unei)

●

- iii. Volunteer(s) to turn Recommendations sheet and DEICS Webpage doc into a memo:

Will put off priorities 3-5 for next meeting since we ran out of time

- d. **AY24 Priority #3:** [Revision of Registration Form](#)
 - i. Updates from Nathan & Jay
- e. **AY24 Priority #4:** [Signage Updates](#)
 - i. Volunteer to start brainstorm/research:
- f. **AY24 Priority #5:** [DEICS Statements for Employee Applications](#)

- i. Volunteer to start brainstorm/research:
- g. **Added Priority:** DEICS Awards for Faculty and Staff
 - i. 30 min memo? Melissa is interested

Meeting adjourned at 12:01

6. The Future

- a. Full Website Revision Recommendations Memo Draft to Chancellor, distributed by Friday 2/16—please review prior to next meeting
- b. Brainstorm items for agenda for retreat
- c. Next meeting time: Friday 2/23 at 10:00am-12:00pm