**Multicultural Advisory Committee**

**Raburn Conference Room of Keller Hall**

**January 14, 2010**

**Meeting Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. Members present were Mr. Ralph Akalonu, Dr. Jana Beaver, Dr. Ian Loeppky, Ms. Toysan Reed, and Mr. Antonio Williams.

There were not enough members present for a quorum, but the committee decided to open the meeting to discuss the agenda items that did not require a vote.

The minutes from December’s meeting were approved after two changes.

Ms. Reed requested help with posting meeting announcements in Portal and sending e-mail meeting reminders to committee members so that she can focus more on research and tasks for this committee. Dr. Loeppky volunteered to take on these duties.

Ms. Reed updated us on our ex-officio member request. Dr. Richardson sent the Shared Governance Executive Committee’s approval and wording in a December 6, 2009 memo to President Cale. Dr. Cale approved our request in a December 10, 2009 memo that Ms. Reed will keep on file.

On November 23, 2009, Ms. Reed met with Mary Bowers and Darlene Crowden from Disability Support Services to determine the needs on campus and how these needs are being met. She said this department has been creative and proactive in assistance, but funds are very limited. Disability Support Services receives no federal or state money, so their only money comes from UNA’s general budget. They are very diligent in handling the funds; however, one need for one student can easily wipe out an entire semester’s funds. Physical, learning, and psychiatric disabilities are all covered by this department, but they are not able to handle many of these needs. The main disabilities we see on campus are students in wheelchairs, or students who are deaf or blind. UNA also has disabled veterans with mostly vision, hearing, and brain injuries. We discussed many of the problems with disability accommodations on campus and decided that the needs of this important issue are perhaps beyond the scope of this committee. Dr. Loeppky made a motion to recommend creation of a new task committee designated solely for the purpose of handling disability issues on campus. Dr. Beaver seconded the motion. All were in favor. This will be continued at the next meeting.

We determined that a new meeting time needed to be arranged for this semester since faculty schedules have changed and we need more attendance at future meetings. Dr. Loeppky will e-mail the committee to come up with new meeting dates and times.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.