University Faculty Senate  
Committee on Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity  
Timothy W. Gerken  
Fall Plenary 2016

Committee Charge
The Committee on Diversity and Cultural Competence will concern itself with issues pertaining to equity, inclusiveness and access, as they are reflected in the curriculum, student body, and personnel of the State University. Among the activities of this committee will be collecting and disseminating information, organizing periodic meetings and workshops, and providing guidance and recommendations to the Senate so that it may act with the best intentions of all people in mind.

Committee Members
Chair: Timothy W. Gerken, Morrisville State College (gerkentw@Morrisville.edu)

Summary of committee actions since previous plenary
  1. Timothy Gerken became committee chair;
  2. Goals established at Committee Planning meeting:
    2.1. Create a vision document that explores how SUNY can be a leader for universal access. How can SUNY be a place where disabled students can thrive? What do disabled students want and need to succeed on our campuses? How can we work with disabled students to secure employment/careers/further study after graduating from our campuses?
    2.2. Trans Health resolution: encourage at least one of our medical centers to develop a trans health program for the training of physicians;
    2.3. Reaction and response to incidents: keep track of incidents happening on campuses, develop standard operating procedures for incidents to pass along to presidents; make access & ideas available when things happen (and track them);
    2.4. Creating a resource and registry to track success of “chosen name” resolution – share best practices – possible cross-over with Student Life;
    2.5. First generation student issues: access to college, success for these students, and completion rates for these students;
    2.6. Re-examine Diversity Counts position paper on hiring, promotion, and continuing appointment: develop policies that people can use, are we giving faculty the procedures they need to get continuing appointment, and support to do the other work or service we’d like to do them.
Outcomes for consideration at the plenary
Consider how Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity goals are suggested in TeachNY. Is this the best use of funding? How and why have prior teacher education and other education reforms failed? What factors—such as poverty—negatively influence public school outcomes? How will this new reform overcome these other negative influences?

Outcomes/queries for UFS Senators to share with their campus
1. Please be inquire on your campus about the Student Information Survey, which students fill out each semester when they register. Your campus should have results of the first round of the survey.
2. Please share any incidents of bias reported on your campus, so we can track these incidents.