

**JEDI Meeting Minutes**  
**Feb. 25, 2:00-3:30**  
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**Dial in by phone**  
**[+1 475-282-1761, 406741423#](#) United States, Bridgeport**  
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**Phone conference ID: 406 741 423#**

\*Martha Cutter, Chair, CLAS, English  
\*Mary Ann Amalaradjou, CAHNR  
\*Becky Bacher, CLAS Advising  
\*Micah Heumann, Institute for Student Success, ACES  
\*Diane Lillo-Martin, CLAS  
\*Eleanor Ouimet, CLAS (*absent*)  
\*Diandra Prescod, Neag School of Education (*absent*)  
\*Ingrid Semaan, CLAS (Stamford) (*absent*)  
\*Eduardo Urios-Aparisi, CLAS, Literatures, Cultures, and Languages  
\*Yaowu Yuan, CLAS (*absent*)  
\*Cindy Zhang, CLAS  
Kimberly Curry, The Graduate School  
Greg Bouquot, Registrar's Office  
Phoenix Harper, Undergraduate Student  
Jeffrey Hines, Office for Diversity and Inclusion (ex-officio member) (*absent*)  
Audrey Silva, Center for Students with Disabilities (*absent*)  
Haritha Subramanian, Undergraduate Student

- I. Approval of Minutes of January Meeting: [2025 0129 JEDI Committee Minutes.docx](#)  
(please add your name to this document as we forgot to take attendance).

Minutes approved unanimously.

- II. Updated meeting schedule going forward: 1.5 hours. Please adjust your schedules.
- III. Old Business:
  1. JEDI Name Change
    - JEDI Name Change Poll: Results
    - Discussion

Martha Cutter reintroduced this topic and summarized the poll results. The floor was opened to discussion. A motion was made to change the name to DEIJA (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Justice & Accessibility). The motion was seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Cards for our students: “Know Your Rights”

<https://www.ilrc.org/red-cards-tarjetas-rojas>

If you have access to a printer, maybe print out a bunch to give to your students, and they can give to friends, family, etc.

IV. New Business

1. Threats to Faculty in Current Climate

- Slide Show (attached)
- Takeaways:
- Your email, text messages, chat messages etc. are all FOIA-able. See articles for example such as this one which used emails: <https://donoharmmedicine.org/2024/10/21/uconn-hippocratic-oath-dei-revision/> (includes links to email exchanges).
- Reporting Form if you or someone you know is threatened: Report right away: <https://equity.uconn.edu/reporting-form/>
- Stephanie Reitz: 860-508-5615 (University Spokesperson) if you are concerned about talking to the media or you said something that is coming back to haunt you, call her (do not email). [Stephanie@uconn.edu](mailto:Stephanie@uconn.edu)

2. Working through Adversity on social media (slide show) (Emily Zangari)

- Slide Show
- Takeaways:
  - Most attacks are short lived
  - Four years of records FOIA-able so don't delete your accounts
  - The U will give advice about how to handle attacks and when to engage.
  - Be extra caution about what you put on social media or in email.

3. Threats to our goals in Current Climate

- [Trump admin threatens to rescind federal funds over DEI](#)
- But:
- [Hitting Pause on the 'Dear Colleague' Letter](#)

(thanks Diane)

- Continue business as usual until our leadership tells us otherwise

4. Resistance:

<https://www.insidehighered.com/news/government/state-policy/2025/01/27/grassroots-college-leader-group-resists-anti-dei#>

Martha Cutter reviewed the presentation and resources. The floor was opened to questions and discussion ensued. It was proposed that a subcommittee be formed to focus on positive DEI messaging and community resources. Kim Curry, Phoenix Harper, Micah Heumann, Haritha Subramanian, Cindy Zhang.

5. Other new business?

Becky Bacher asked for a status update on the ABR course development and Martha Cutter shared that Africana Studies is currently working on developing this.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, March 26, 2025 11:05 AM-12:30 PM

The meeting was adjourned at 3:19 p.m.