

JEDI Meeting Minutes

Feb. 25, 2:00-3:30

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Phone conference ID: 406 741 423#

Attendance:

- *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

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.