

## The University Diversity and Equity Committee

<b>Date:</b> April 3, 2025	<b>Time:</b> 1:00-3:00 pm
<b>Location:</b> MS Teams	<b>Meeting Lead:</b> Dr. Asma Sayed
<b>Contact:</b> <a href="mailto:udec@kpu.ca">udec@kpu.ca</a>	
<b>UDEC SharePoint:</b> <a href="https://kpuemp.sharepoint.com/sites/committees/udec">https://kpuemp.sharepoint.com/sites/committees/udec</a>	

Minutes	
<b>1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement</b>	- Provided by Dr. Asma Sayed
<b>2. Approval of Agenda</b>	- Approved
<b>3. Approval of Minutes</b>	- Approved
<b>4. VP, OEIC Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The OEIC hosted KPU's Third Annual Anti-Racism Symposium on March 21, 2025. The event was successful with high attendance and engagement. MLA George Anderson delivered the keynote, followed by a discussion with Dr. Sayed where he shared his experiences as a young Black MLA, and personal stories of facing microaggressions. Dr. Sayed and Dr. Nishan Perera of the Teaching and Learning Commons launched the Anti-Racism Pedagogy Toolkit, a collaborative resource between OEIC and TLC, available online as a pressbook. <a href="#">Access the toolkit here.</a></li> <li>- Dr. Sayed attended the Social Justice Music Festival, hosted by Gordon Cobb on March 13, 2025.</li> <li>- Dr. Sayed and the OEIC team attended a webinar by <i>Nice Racism</i> and <i>White Fragility</i> author Robin DiAngelo hosted by the University of Ottawa on March 17<sup>th</sup>. DiAngelo discussed how white people can improve their understanding and support for racialized communities.</li> </ul>

- Ramadan Iftar Event: Dr. Sayed attended an Iftar event hosted by the Sociology Students Club on March 21<sup>st</sup> to raise awareness about Ramadan. The event was sponsored through funds from the OEIC.
- Dr. Sayed attended meetings regarding the Dimensions Recognition program, which recognizes institutions for their EDI efforts. KPU is considering applying in the future. More information about the program [can be found here](#).
- Dr. Sayed participated in a panel at the Richmond Multicultural Community Services (RMCS) event "Dialogue to Action: Richmond Anti-Racism Plan - A Blueprint for Action".  
The JEDI Awards committee has been formed, and will be chaired by Trina Prince of the OEIC. The awards will be presented at KPU Day on May 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- The Third Annual South Asian Arts Festival, co-founded by Dr. Asma Sayed, Canada Research Chair (CRC) in South Asian Literary and Cultural Studies, and Gurp Sian, LANC instructor, will be held over two days: literary readings on April 9<sup>th</sup> and dance/music performances on April 11<sup>th</sup>. Due to high demand, [registration is required](#).

## **5. Reports from UDEC Members**

### **a. Portfolio Updates – Trina Prince**

- Trina Prince attended the Moving Trans History Forward conference at the University of Victoria, celebrating the 10th anniversary of their Chair in Transgender Studies.
- The OEIC allocated \$10,000 for the Gender and Sexual Equity Advocacy Awards. Ten KPU students received \$1,000 each for their advocacy work in this area, both within and externally.
- Trina attended the DiverseCity International Women's Day event on March 6<sup>th</sup>, representing KPU and engaging with the community at their booth.
- In honor of Trans Day of Visibility on March 31<sup>st</sup>, Trina hosted a "Relearning Gender" workshop, fostering meaningful discussions and ongoing learning.
- Trina introduced the "Power of Learning from Mistakes" workshop at the Faculty Connect Event in February, which was well-received. It will also be available during KPU Day and can be offered to specific departments or groups upon request.
- Trina shared that the OEIC will sponsor and support several Pride events this year, including Surrey Pride, Vancouver Pride, White Rock Pride, and Langley Pride. Volunteers will be needed, and registration will open soon.
- Trina and Dr. Fiona Whittington-Walsh have collaborated with the Teaching and Learning Commons to create an academic ableism workshop, which will be launched for faculty at the end of April and into May.
- AccessAbility Week, set to launch at the end of May, will feature a variety of engaging events. More information to come.

### **b. Indigenous Services Updates – Natalie Wood-Wiens**

- New Moon Gala: The gala is scheduled for May 22<sup>nd</sup>, and early bird discounts will be available soon.
- Open Doors Open Minds: The annual event for Indigenous high school students will take place on April 30<sup>th</sup> at the Surrey campus, with keynote speaker Justin Rain, an Indigenous actor. The event will feature mock classes, performers, and a lunch, aimed at promoting KPU's diverse programs to Indigenous students.
- National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (May 5): KPU will collaborate with the library to acknowledge the day.
- Moose Hide Campaign (May 15): KPU will share details of this initiative aimed at ending violence against Indigenous women and girls.
- Truth and Reconciliation booklets are available for free and provide valuable information about the 94 Calls to Action based on discussions with residential school survivors across Canada. There is a limited supply of about 300 copies remaining. Contact [IndigenousServices@kpu.ca](mailto:IndigenousServices@kpu.ca) to request copies.
- Global Indigenous Learning Experience: The program in partnership with Edith Cowan University in Australia will proceed this summer. Indigenous students from Australia will visit KPU, with both virtual and in-person components. This will provide an opportunity for cultural exchange and engagement with KPU's community.
- National Indigenous History Month (June): Various events will take place throughout the month, some virtual and some in-person.

#### **6. New Business**

- None.

#### **7. Information Sharing and Updates**

- Dr. Fiona Whittington-Walsh: On March 24<sup>th</sup>, Dr. Rheanna Robinson visited KPU's Gathering Place and shared her new children's book, *Why Do You Walk Like That?* Her talk was recorded and will be shared widely soon.
- Trina Prince: Trina will be competing as a drag king, performing under the name "Prince of Whales," in Surrey Pride's 'So You Think You Can Drag' show. They are fundraising for the Salal Sexual Violence Support Centre. A link to donate is provided [here](#).

#### **8. Adjournment**