

Leeds Beckett University
Race Equality and Diversity Forum
Meeting minutes June 2nd, 2015

Present: Kevin Hylton (Chair) (KH), Joaquim Dias (JD), Katrina Tilbrook (KT), David Henderson (DH), Lynne Wilson (LW), Killian NGong (KN), Inder Hunjan (IH), Monica Campbell (MC), Julie Fimusanmi (JF), Faith Muimo (FM), Linton Robinson (LR), Thomas Fletcher (TF), Jason Arday (JA).

Apologies:

Bernadette Saltibus

Vivienne Caruana

Yvette Smalle

Mobina Begum

KH opened the meeting by welcoming JD as a new member to the forum.

2. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as accurate.

3. Matters arising

KH suggested removing Action Point 1. He said that a commemoration to Stuart Hall had been discussed in a previous meeting, but that progress had been delayed, and an event now would be overdue.

KH said that Action Point 2 had been deprioritised in Bernadette's absence. He said that other issues had taken priority in the meantime.

4. Annual Event Working Group

KN distributed a report on discussion held on what the forum might focus its work on over the next academic year.

IH discussed the report (appendix A) identifying a range of potential activities – e.g. engaging with MPs, putting on monthly seminars/events, linking the forum's activities with academic Faculties, and embedding issues of equality and diversity in Schools – e.g. induction events.

KT said that many of the proposed activities would be aimed at students – e.g. raising awareness of equality and diversity issues – with the potential to integrate these in subsequent Futures Fest events.

KH said he had been in contact with Emmy Onuora who has recently published a book on the history of Black professional footballers. He will be part of the Carnegie Conversations calendar in March 2016 and could be utilised as part of the annual calendar.

LW said that there may be some overlap with Race Equality Forum and other forms – e.g. Faith Forum – and that opportunities for collaboration ought to be pursued.

LR said that LBU already has strong links with Uni of Leeds through the Chaplaincy.

KH said it is important to establish the forum's priorities. He observed that attempting to do anything between June and the annual event in October might be unrealistic.

KT said that forward planning is needed in order to ensure that prominent speakers/contributors can be booked for future events.

A series of potential speakers/contributors were discussed. KH asked D Henderson to propose some names from the world of sport.

IH stressed importance of establishing a wider network of contacts – e.g. universities, Leeds City Council – that will help make future events successful.

KH asked for forum members to volunteer to join the Annual event organising committee. Current members include: Kevin Hylton, Katrina Tilbrook, Lynne Wilson, Inder Hunjan, Monica Campbell, Thomas Fletcher.

KH thanked working group for their contribution.

5. Runnymede Trust Report: Aiming Higher

JA introduced the Aiming Higher video and report and provided an overview of the project and how its findings had been received by the academic community.

6. Equality and Diversity update

LW circulated report on activities of the Equality and Diversity team (appendix B).

7. Race Equality Charter Mark

KT said that RCM and action plan had been submitted and circulated. Equality Challenge Unit expected to make decisions on submissions in June/July and feedback on submissions to be provided shortly after.

She reported that 32 institutions began the process, but only 21 submitted.

KT said that each objective from the action plan has a named person assigned to it who will liaise with the self-assessment team to ensure they are met.

KT said that the ongoing priority is for race equality issues to be visible at higher levels within the university.

KH drew attention to the proposed Race Champion role. KT reported that establishment of the role and attendant responsibilities are yet to be finalised.

8. Student racism issues

Deferred until next meeting.

9. AOB

Meeting of organising committee for Annual event to take place on June 16 at 10:30.

10. Date of next meeting

Friday 25th September at the Rose Bowl Campus.

Meeting closed at 2pm.

Action Points

Item	Action
Annual event and programme	KN - Working group to meet to discuss an annual programme of events and feedback at the next meeting.
Race and Equality Charter mark	KT to update
Equality and Diversity Update	KT to circulate a written update.