

Representative: Camilla Mejia. Mejia is from the SIRC, and they're putting on an event called Cultures of Resistance, and there is an event next week. The SIRC is having an event on March 2nd; an immigration stories panel. In keeping with the quarter's theme, the SIRC wants to hear stories from elders to gain courage to move forward. Mejia came to see if anybody wanted to participate, and ask their elders and family members if they wanted to be on the panel. Vilay Lee asked where it was going to be held. Mejia said Frasier Hall, around 4:30 or 5. V Lee asked if it was open to the public, and Mejia said yes. Liang asked if they wanted elders specifically, or students also. Mejia said that they could shape the event to that if people were interested. People indicated that they were. Mejia gave people her email in case people needed to contact her. Bolar asked how the compensation would work for people who were speaking. Mejia said that the SIRC wasn't sure yet, but said that people would be paid for coming in or compensated for gas money. Vilay Lee asked what exactly the purpose of the event was. Mejia said that as kids, people might not have listened to the stories as well, but as college students, elders may tell the stories that they need to hear. Mejia hoped that the event would be an inspiration for finals week and also for going forward into the future.

B. Shari Robinson

Robinson said that she is the director of the counseling center, and has been here for about a year and a half. She said that Western hired a person of color as director deliberately. She said that she had talked to people in the room and understood that there were barriers to people of color for using the counseling center. Robinson said that last year, she hired seven people in six months. She had made an effort to reach out to people of color to hire. She said that it was hard to recruit counselors of color since

Western wasn't as well known around the country. She said that she would love to help students studying psychology to graduate and get jobs after school. She said that she needed the help of the presidents. Last quarter Robinson and another person started a group for first generation students, and the ones that attended regularly said that it was a big help. Robinson said that she wanted to attend ESC club meetings to tell students about counseling services and the first generation support group. Robinson explained that the first generation support group is a drop-in group who meet in the Wellness Center in the VU. People who attend don't have to be Counseling Center clients. Robinson asked the committee how to get the word out about the group. Vilay Lee asked how Robinson generated interest in the groups she had run before. Robinson said that she spent time with student groups and let students get to know her as a person. She said that here at Western, it was a little bit harder to get in. V Lee said that she agreed, and that Western had been through a lot, and the campus was very diverse. She invited Robinson to come to a WHSA meeting, since WHSA was big on education. Robinson passed out fliers and business cards, and reminded students that although the counseling center didn't have a lot of money, they could do other things. SASA suggested that Robinson go to an English class or GUR, since a lot of people attend those. Quiroz suggested talking to the ESJ minor, since there were a lot of students of color in that program. Robinson asked the committee if they knew why students of color were hesitant to go to the counseling center. Vilay Lee said that for her, it had to do with not knowing about the resources available. She said that as far as culture went, Asians tended not to reach out for help until they were at a breaking point. Quiroz said that personally, for people of color who tried to go into STEM majors, counselors didn't know

how to help them. Robinson said that if people had a problem, they could contact her directly. SASA said that people might not show up to the counseling center because they don't know what it provides. Robinson said that if she were invited into club meetings, she could educate people on what the counseling center does.

IV. BSC Lobby Day

Cervantes said that ESC Lobby Day was happening on February 19th and 20th, over Presidents Day Weekend. If people had questions, they could e-mail Vicky Matey. Information sessions will be held before the trip. Cervantes said that she went to Western Lobby Day two weeks ago, and told the council about the experience. There's a Facebook event with a link to the OrgSync form.

V. Other Business

A. Opsis "homework"

Opsis is the architect firm working on the ESC renovation. Opsis asked Cervantes to get people to send them quotes and photographs that represent the ESC. The council would be working with Opsis on what they want the ESC to look like, and how it can serve the students of the ESC and their clubs.

Cervantes said that hopefully by next meeting, she would have PDFs of the plans to show the council.

VI. BSC Updates

Baker said that he sent everyone an email about Congressman Larson coming to campus on January 27th in VU 462A/B about recent changes in policy and law. There will only be room for 30-50 students, so hopefully 1-2 representatives from each ESC club can come and talk to the congressman.

The Links Foundation is offering a scholarship of \$1000 for buying professional clothes. Information is on the ESC Facebook page.

Eric Lim, the ESC marketing coordinator, will be e-mailing people to get a list of club members and their email addresses. Baker asked people if they had an updated list of club members on OrgSync. People said no. Baker asked them to get that updated so an ESC newsletter could be sent out.

Baker said that he was working on getting ESC t-shirts, and would hopefully be coming to Steering next week to talk about budget.

Cervantes reminded people to keep in touch with their Steering representatives about ESC Night Market.

VII. Club Updates

KhSA - Our Hidden Story event

SASA - meetings are every other week now, instead of once a month.

FASA - having their PCM by donation only this weekend. A lot of schools from around Washington and Oregon are coming to perform

Knutzen said that Western theatre is trying to start a gallery or magazine to showcase the art of people of color.

KSA - Heritage Dinner this Saturday

WWSA - Tea party on March 2nd in the Solarium in Old Main

Aleyda Cervantes, VP for Diversity, adjourned the meeting at 5:55 pm on January 23, 2017.