

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF BLACKS  
December 5, 2022

Members Present

Krystal Akehinmi  
Charria Campbell  
Keisha Claybrooks

Holly Mills  
Edward Driggers  
Joshua Gordon

Arthur Banton  
Harry Ingle

Members Absent

Gregory Holt  
Margo Dirkson  
Robert Owens  
Na'Quaja Gaines

Daniel Allen  
Dr. Polk-Johnson  
Wes Bridges

Sayota Knight  
Rosemarie Black  
Troy Smith

Quorum was not met so a discussion took place. The discussion began at 1:48pm.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was tabled due to quorum was not met.

Approval of the Minutes

The motion to approve the minutes from the November 7<sup>th</sup>, meeting were tabled due to quorum not being met.

Proceedings

Quorum was not met. A discussion was held about lowering the number of required of members necessary in order to hold a meeting. This will be added to the agenda next month.

Good News

Lakeisha Claybrooks shared that she will walk (graduate) on Friday, December 9, 2022. She had earned a Master's Degree in Professional Services with a focus in Strategic Leadership. Congratulations Keisha!

### Commission on the Status of Women

Dr. Helen Hunt of the Commission of the Status of Women is asking for the support of CSB in proposing that TTU not only offer six weeks of maternity job leave protection but also that this be six weeks of paid maternity leave. Krystal Akehinmi stated that she is familiar with a "Parental Work Assignment Program" that is used by other Universities. In this program the employee is allowed to teach virtually from home, and participate in the academic arena on an agreed situation that is beneficial to the new parent, academic responsibilities, etc.

### RACE and Ethnic Studies Minor Course Enrollment Numbers

Krystal Akehinmi encourages CSB to spread the news and advertise the RACE and Ethnic Diversity courses available. There is also a minor degree available in this area. Arthur Banton stated that flyers and information regarding these classes was made available in late September posted around campus, sent to advisors, as well as to Allen Mullis, Angie Clark. However, enrollment in these classes are low. Please help advertise these classes to the student body.

### Subcommittee Reports

#### MLK

Charria Campbell spoke about events already planned. The lists includes:

Student Engage has been the Cookeville NAACP and all are invited to the Algood Methodist Church for Breakfast on Monday, January 16, 2023 at 7am.

Food Pantry restocking will take place on Monday, January 23, 2023.

Live on the Plaza Concert

Music History Workshop

Jeff Hobbs returns on February 9<sup>th</sup> in the TPR for a presentation on the "Intersection of the African American and Native Americans".

Gospel Extravaganza on February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022 which includes the return of the "United Voices of Praise". Gospel Ensembles are encouraged to participate. Location: TBD.

“Racing Through Time” will be at 11am (dead hour) on February 21<sup>st</sup>. This will be a display of African Americans through time that are not well known, but have contributed greatly to our culture. Krystal Akehinmi suggested that this information be displayed on digital display screens as well as displayed in student areas.

Soul Food Dinner - February 21, 2023. Entertainment is planned.

Marc Burnett presents “Paint Night” on February 21<sup>st</sup>. More information coming.

### Other Matters

Charria Campbell stated that the BCC is scheduled to be renovated beginning in January, 2023. Therefore the BCC and the Conference Room may not be available for meetings. The old Noble Cody and Executive Dining Room have been renovated, but they are zoned for student use, and require special permission to use such spaces. Charria also asked that anyone who can help pack up the BCC would be welcome to join in this quest. At this time, Charria stated that there was no definite decision as to where office personnel would be relocated during this remodeling time. Due to this uncertainty, a hybrid meeting may not be available.

### Adjournment

Due to this meeting being a discussion, CSB Chair Krystal Akehinmi adjourned the discussion at 2:37pm. The next meeting will be virtual on January 9, 2023 using Microsoft teams.