

Values Commitment Steering Team Minutes
February 12, 2015

Team members in attendance were Bob Sitler, Michael Branton, Leila Roach, Colleen Price, and Joshua Rust. Chaplain Michael Fronk attended the meeting to present a backdrop on Stetson's holiday policy, particularly the Good Friday holiday.

Holidays

There was extended discussion regarding the Good Friday holiday with each team member expressing his viewpoint. One recommendation was to replace the Good Friday with a holiday to honor veterans. After much discussion, the consensus was that more should be done to support and address the needs of veterans but that it should not be veterans day holiday. It was recommended that it should remain a spring holiday. One suggestion is to have a spring counterpart to Values Day that would be a day of service with organized activities for students and a holiday for faculty and staff.

Chaplain Fronk was charged with writing a recommendation regarding the Good Friday holiday within two weeks.

Speaker for Values Day

It was announced that we already have a contract with a Values Day speaker: Richard Blanco, a Cuban writer and the inaugural poet for President Barack Obama's second inauguration.

Tobacco Policy

Bob Sitler learned from Bob Huth that where we have choice, we are not directly investing in tobacco but that our investments are still with Vanguard, which is heavily invested in tobacco. The committee has made its preference known that we should not be investing with any group that invests in tobacco and that it can be done, as demonstrated by Johns Hopkins University, which opted out of tobacco investments.

Environmental Task Force

The committee has not yet learned who will comprise the group other than Wendy Anderson who has been approached as chair. Michael Branton will ask Bob Huth how the task force is progressing. Printing resources will be an issue to be handed over to the new task force.

Concussion Policy

Bob Sitler has written to Jeff Altier that we should consider adopting more stringent protocols regarding concussions.

Replacements for Values Committee Steering Team

Bob Sitler reiterated that the committee should have tenured faculty. He recommended enlisting a female leader. Bob informed the committee that he has leeway in choosing members of the committee.

The next meeting will take place on February 26, 2015 at 10 a.m. in room 126 of the Lynn Business Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Hamil
Recording Secretary