

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Council
June 12th, 2024 Meeting Minutes

The DEI Council advances diversity, equity, and inclusion and addresses the problems of bias, systemic inequities and underrepresentation in the legal profession and legal system.

Member Attendees: Gov. Sunitha Anjilvel, Raina Wagner, Mia Little, Dallas Martinez, Gov. Brent Williams-Ruth, Gov. Tom Ahearne, Miryam Gordon, Gov. Nam Nguyen, Alec Stephens, Christopher Swaby, Sharon Sakamoto, SaNni Lemonidis,

WSBA Staff: Diana Singleton, Saleena Salango

Guests: Ben Kim-Gervey, Sandra Yamate, Steve Crossland, Karyn Linn

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 12:03 P.M.

[Membership Demographic Study Report & Updates](#)

Dr. Ben Kim-Gervey shared an overview of the membership survey findings and provided a status update on the membership study process. Ben also offered some recommendations based on the data:

1. Engaging with affinity bar associations
2. Enhancing diversity mentorship programs – particularly helping people navigate specific career pathways
3. Promoting issue education, particularly among leaders and potential allies that are largely unaware of the negative daily experiences

[May Meeting Minutes](#)

The Council approved the May meeting minutes with a slight amendment to correct an omission of the date and location of the July Board meeting, with one abstention from Alec. The May minutes will state "The next Board meeting will be July 18-19 in Nespalem and Moses Lake, WA."

[DEI Plan Workgroup Update](#)

Sandra Yamate and Karyn Linn from ILLP shared information about the strategic planning session on June 28. The session will consider what the WSBA's role is, what success might look like, and where there are opportunities for meaningful collaboration.

[DEI Council and LLLT Program](#)

Steve Crossland, the Chair of the LLLT Board shared information about how the DEI Council could help support their efforts to reinstate this license type in Washington and make LLLT programs accessible across the state in community colleges.

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Board of Governors Updates

DEI Council Application Review Process

The DEI Council will need to fill five open seats: 3 current open seats, 3 rolling off, 1 applying for re-appointment.

DEI Council MBA Buddy System

Raina Wagner reminded the Council of ongoing conversations about building relationships with MBAs. We encourage members to sign up to be a “buddy” to MBAs. We will return to the discussion about the expectations during a future meeting.

Workgroup Updates

Pathways into the Profession –

DEI Plan –

Roundtable Discussion and/or Announcements

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 1:32 P.M.