

CONNECTICUT JUDICIAL BRANCH

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON CULTURAL COMPETENCY

January 24, 2017
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
225 Spring Street, Room 204
Wethersfield

Attendees:

Justice Richard A. Robinson (Chair), Troy Brown, Samuel Bruder, Alison Chandler, Karen Chorney, Linda Cimino, Juanita Halepas, Esther Harris, Zarin Kapur, Meghan Korn, Daisy Ortiz, Phil Strambler, Ewa Wojewodzki, Shawna Woodard, Paul Bourdoulous (Alumni)

Welcome and Approval of Minutes

Justice Robinson opened the meeting and welcomed Meghan Korn who will be attending in lieu of Isabel Alvarez during her leave of absence.

Current Events – topic added in response to recent national events

Justice Robinson noted the POTUS election (process, outcome, and aftermath) and offered committee members the opportunity to express their concerns in a safe environment. Committee members participated in a frank discussion that ranged from personal encounters both in and out of the work environment that were concerning, to a general fear of losing important ground gained in the Civil Rights movement of the 1960's. Justice Robinson facilitated the discussion to its conclusion and committee members expressed gratitude for the opportunity to speak candidly.

Membership

This topic was tabled until the March meeting.

ACCC Vision and Mission Statements

Multiple articles were distributed for members to read in advance of the next meeting scheduled solely for this topic. The date of the meeting to begin the discussion regarding the ACCC Vision and Mission will be determined by an email poll later this week.

What's Happening?

Karen Chorney reported that the video grant application had been distributed for review and would be ready for submission by February 1.

Paul Bourdoulous reported that the National Child Support Policy Conference would be held in February in Washington, DC, and that Justice Robinson would be presenting with Rachel Godsil on Implicit Bias.

Troy Brown reported that CSSD will be presenting 4 events during February as part of Black History Month.

New Business (New ACCC Initiatives, Announcements, etc.)

Justice Robinson suggested that ACCC meetings, on occasion, include education to keep members informed. This concept will be further developed and discussed at a future meeting.

Shawna Woodard announced that the ACCC calendar with internal activities will be updated soon.

The next Lunch & Learn subcommittee (including Justice Robinson, Troy Brown, Phil Strambler, and Juanita Halepas) is working on selecting a topic and activities. The event will be scheduled for April or May, 2017.

Shawna announced that two FCR 100 trainers from the ACCC will attend "Building Racial Equity" in New York City, a one-day training program hosted by the organization Race Forward. The trainers are expected to share with other committee members what they learned from the training at a subsequent ACCC meeting.

Justice Robinson announced with delight that Daisy Ortiz and Zarin Kapur have agreed to co-chair Diversity Week 2017.

Troy and Shawna announced that the Commission on Racial and Ethnic Disparity in the Criminal Justice System, chaired by Justice Harper, has received funding earmarked for implicit bias training. Both attend the meetings and will keep the ACCC informed and involved.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:56 p.m.