

SERD Meeting Minutes

11/10/08

Attendance: Gargi Roysircar, Corey Gifford, Cindy McKusick, Nate Thorn, Amanda Blanchard, Afshan Afsahi, Jamie Carroll, Antoinette Booth, Vincent Pignatiello, Brian Denietolis, Wendy Vincent, Krista Reincke, Ben Herzig, Sheeba Thomas

- Krista inquired about interest from SERD in bringing in ethnic foods for the Antioch holiday party on December 15th; many members volunteered various items.
- Vince reported that LCC is doing well, with a good number of people attending meetings.
- Sheeba mentioned that a thank you letter was developed for fundraising for the MLK/Jonathan Daniels committee activities.
- Plans were discussed for the Multicultural Summit in January 2009: Gargi along with several SERD members will be planning to attend; SERD members will be able to funded for their travel and hotel expenses, but will have to pay for registration; They will be leaving January 11th and returning on the 16th.
- Brian is going to be helping Gargi with her book that they hope to publish in May 2009.
- Various details about the Shakti outreach trip to Texas were discussed:
 - Spring break (March) was decided upon as members' 1st choice for time of the trip; May (right after Spring semester ends) was suggested as 2nd choice.
 - Gargi shared that no more than four students would be appropriate for the trip.
 - Corey shared that the trip becoming more well-defined helps to draw participants.
 - Gargi reported that Texas is feeling neglected in the aftermath of the hurricane; Brian discussed how this would be important to keep in mind in Shakti's work there.
 - Gargi reiterated that the powerpoint on Disaster Shakti outreach work is posted on the MCC website, which discusses the type of work Shakti volunteers do and the emotional self-care that is necessary to do the work; Wendy offered to talk to students about this.
 - The first step is the application which needs to be updated with new information about this specific trip.

- A link needs to be created for the trip with information and pictures; after Gargi reviews all the information, it will be sent to Cynthia Waters who will set up the webpage.
- December 15th (the last day of this semester) will be the deadline for the application.
- Gargi reported that the school is concerned about her health with all the traveling that she is doing for Shakti; A team will be thoroughly trained by Gargi to represent Antioch for Shakti outreach trips; There will be careful selection of students to ensure maturity to handle the stress involved; Gargi reported that Antioch is taking over some of the procedures (e.g. thank you letters) to help out.
- Gargi has been in contact with local teachers and a Methodist priest who are interested in learning about Islam. Three Antioch students (Ben, Afshan, and Zachariah) will be involved in having conversations about Islam with this group.

Respectfully submitted by:

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