

2020 MLK DREAM WEEK

Meeting Minutes

May 30, 2019

I. Welcome, introductions, and charge

Draft Charge was sent in an email prior to the meeting:

Context:

Northwestern University's commemoration and celebration of the birth and legacy of the late Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.--Dream Week--is an aggregation of multiple celebratory and service events that various groups across the campus contribute to and participate in. The intention of the many events is to honor traditions and to create new opportunities to reflect on the contributions of Dr. King, including often radical and incisive critiques, and his continuing legacy at Northwestern University. The events surrounding the commemoration of Dr. King have varied and shifted throughout Northwestern University's recent history and will likely continue to respond to the needs and interests of the broad Northwestern, Evanston and Chicago community.

Charge:

Dream Week 2020 purpose

The Dream Week 2020 Leadership will be headed by three faculty/staff co-chairs charged with coordinating Dream Week. They have authority to endorse or turn-back any proposal programming as a part of Dream Week 2020. Their overall aim is to provide high-quality, coordinated events that honor the vision of racial justice and economic equality espoused by Dr. King. They are also charged with recommending and implementing changes as needed to achieve those goals. Other objectives may include the following:

- Offering a schedule of events that is not overwhelming our students
- Reconceptualizing the programming to adjust to student and community needs
- Seeking coordination with other entities
- Providing good stewardship of funds
- Seeking opportunities to create community within Northwestern and with its neighbors, including the histories of faith communities and long-standing community partnerships
- Offering programming that engages racial justice and economic justice, and
- Acknowledging Northwestern University's history with racial justice and economic equality particularly in relation to Evanston and to Chicago
- Encouraging action and aspirations for concrete change

II. Announcement of 2020 Keynote Speaker

- a) Tarana Burke founder of the 'me too.' movement to keynote MLK address on both campuses
- b) Keynote Chicago Campus – **Monday, January 27 at 12:00 PM**, Rubloff Building Chicago
- c) Keynote Evanston Campus – **Monday, January 27 at 5:00 PM** at Pick-Staiger Concert Hall

****keynote start time pushed up 30-mins from 5:30pm to 5:00 pm***

d) Reception will take place prior to Evanston keynote (around 4:00 PM)

III. Presentation of Subcommittees

a) Keynote Committee – Led by Ava Greenwell

- Discussion of order of events, reception start time and keynote start time
- Reaching out to Res Life and Student Engagement to market the keynote
- Planning of activities or programs leading up to keynote and after keynote
- Engage Women's Center as a partner for MLK
- Connect keynote to 150 years of co-education and one-book (Hidden Figures)
- Connect keynote to MSA, CAPS and other student and support groups

b) Candlelight Vigil – Led by Tahera Ahmed

- Candlelight Vigil will be a panel discussion with panelist from 80s – 2000s
- Topic: What it's like to be a Black student at Northwestern

b) Eva Jefferson Day Committee – Led by Val Buchanan

- NU to partner with ETHS SOAR group for Eva Jefferson Day
- Idea to connect EJD to the history of the Evanston Civil Rights Movement

c) Communication Committee – Led by Louie Lainez (Mónica Russel y Rodríguez, in his place for this meeting)

- Social media outreach plus catchy title for events will be important to draw students
- Work with schools and units that are student facing to promote MLK DREAM Week
- Communicating Chicago Campus events better

d) Chicago Campus DREAM Week Committee – Led by Janet Olivo and Shannon Bartlett

- Hosts a series of events and panels related to social justice
- Annual Oratorical Competition
- Engaging Grad students and the professional schools more for these events

e) Day of Service- discussion

The day of service was discussed and some concerns were brought up that describe the problematic nature of one-time service events. The concerns were raised that one-time events can perpetuate an uneven power dynamic between school and community. There were objections that such events can be harmful to community members and damaging to our efforts to create partnerships in more on-going ways. Some mentioned that one-time events can be a good avenue into more sustained relationships for those individuals. On the balance, the consensus of the committee was that Day of Service as a one-time event did not uphold the charge of Dream Week and it will not be included this year in Dream Week events.

I. Sub- committee sign up list (as of June 7, 2019)

MLK Sub-Committee Sign-Up List, 2020				
KEYNOTE (Chair: Ava Greenwell)	CANDLELIGHT VIGIL (Chair: Tahera Ahmad)	EVA JEFFERSON DAY (Chair: Val Buchanan)	COMMUNICATIONS (Chair: Louie Lainez)	CHICAGO DREAM WEEK (Co-Chair: Shannon Bartlett and Janet Olivo)
Ava Greenwell - Medill	Tahera Ahmad - Religious & Spiritual Life	Val Buchanan - Leadership Development and Comm	Louie Lainez - ex officio	Shannon Bartlett - Pritzker
Obumneme Osele - Alpha Phi Alpha	Obumneme Osele - Alpha Phi Alpha	Shlan Tekeste - FMO	Sekile Nzinga-Johnson - Women's Center	Janet Olivo - Office of D&I - Feinberg
Mónica Russel y Rodríguez, ex officio	Louie Lainez, ex officio	Soteria Reid - ASG	Alonso Cisneros - EOI/ASG	? From marketing?
Tracey Gibson-Jackson	Alvin Tillery (to be confirmed)	Marlon Millner - BGSA	Dana Langtiw	
		Lauren Watkins - The Block Museum	Toni M. Montgomery	
		Zenani Greenwell, <i>ex officio</i>	Dave Davis (to be confirmed)	
			Amy Hauenstein	
as of June 7, 2019				

Members will be in touch with their committee chairs and will be separately and as needed to create an agenda that proposes speakers, budgets, and agenda. Each committee will report at the All-Committees meeting.

IV. Next All-Committees Meeting – Thursday, October 31, 2019 at 3:00 PM Norris, Lake Room 203