

THE OREGON SUPREME COURT
COUNCIL ON INCLUSION & FAIRNESS

Meeting Minutes

Date: Friday, May 7, 2021
Time: 1:00-3:00 PM
Location: Virtual only; WebEx

Members Present:	Hon. Adrienne Nelson (chair); Jim Belshe; Cathryn Bowie; Sophorn Cheang; Helen Hirschbiel; Mariann Hyland; Ed Johnson; Karen Lee; Hon. Melvin Oden-Orr; Kimberly Rockeman; Jessica Roeser; Gina Marie Stewart; Hon. Debra Velure
Members Absent:	Hon. Sheryl Bachart; John Haroldson; Kelly Mills; Rep. Tawna Sanchez
Presenter(s):	Yvette Tamamoto (CLAS); Edward Alletto (CLAS)
Guest(s):	Jon Pugsley (Representative Sanchez's Office); Shannon Singleton (Governor's Office); Blake Dye (HRSD); Un Cha Kim (TCA for Polk County)
Others Present:	Valerie Colas, OSCCIF Staff Counsel

The meeting was called to order at 1:03 PM.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Justice Nelson welcomed everyone. Justice Nelson acknowledged Valerie Colas for her column in the MBA newsletter for April. Also acknowledged Angelica Vega, former member, for the profile in the OSB Bulletin for modeling service leadership.

Check in with Council members and guests.

MINUTES

Helen Hirschbiel moved to approve the minutes from the March 2021 meeting. Sophorn Cheang seconded the motion.

ACTION: Council members approved the minutes from March 2021 meeting. Judge Oden-Orr abstained.

COURT LANGUAGE ACCESS SERVICES – LANGUAGE ACCESS PLAN UPDATE

Presenters: Yvette Tamamoto and Ed Alletto

Materials: Previous Court Language Access Plan



PRESENTATION:

- Yvette is the Language Access Coordinator at Court Language Access Services (CLAS).
- Language Access Plan is OJD’s framework to engage in continuous improvement for language access. See PowerPoint presentation.
- CLAS uses U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) four factor process that includes reviewing number of Limited English Proficient (LEP) individuals in each county, the frequency with which LEP individuals come to court, what services OJD provides, and what resources are available. CLAS also uses the DOJ assessment tools.
- The previous plan was created in 2016, which was a five-year plan.
- Goals for 2022-2026 draft goals: (1) improve language access services at all points of contact outside judicial proceedings for services that are managed or paid for by OJD; (2) foster productive working relationships with community members and judicial stakeholders; (3) increase the number of certified interpreters; and (4) improve OJD language access training of judges and court staff through incorporation into existing training and equity, diversity, and inclusion programs.

DISCUSSION

- Participants sent to breakout groups to discuss the goals identified and report back how they prioritized the goals.
- All breakout groups reported back to Yvette with their prioritization of the strategies for each goal.
- Yvette mentioned that CLAS will incorporate the feedback received into the plan. Will return to the Council with the updated Language Access Plan. Council members are welcomed to provide additional feedback to Yvette.

ACTION: None

SUBCOMMITTEE AND WORK GROUP UPDATES

Community Engagement Subcommittee

Presenters: Valerie Colas

Materials: None

PRESENTATION:

- The group working on the update to the Access and Fairness Survey has completed its work. The updated survey is in the materials. The survey captures court users experience whether they access the court or its services in person, remotely, or via the website. The survey will be translated to the top 5 languages requested in our courts.
- We will start a campaign to obtain court user responses from July to the end of September with the understanding that we will use the data from that time, but the survey will remain open throughout the year.

DISCUSSION:

- It was up to each trial court administrator (TCA) to decide how to roll it out in their courts. Last year TCAs uploaded the link at the end of remote hearings, had flyers in their courts, and were given template letters to reach out to local law firms and community groups to ask their clients to respond to the survey.

Data Analysis Subcommittee

Presenters: Valerie Colas and Hon. Adrienne Nelson

Materials: None

PRESENTATION:

- The subcommittee's proposal that the Council approved in March has been shared with the State Court Administrator and Chief Justice. We have obtained additional input from OSCA staff regarding discussions with Tyler and other considerations that we would need to consider. The subcommittee will start having monthly meetings to draft recommendations on the identified decisions that need to be made regarding collecting race, ethnicity, and gender data.
- This is part of a larger process that includes resolutions from the ABA and other organizations highlighting the need for data collection in this area.

DISCUSSION:

- None.

Workforce Development Subcommittee – Gender Neutral and Lactating Mother’s Facilities in Courthouses

Presenters: Valerie Colas

Materials: None

PRESENTATION:

- Valerie reaching out to various stakeholders to participate in this work group.

DISCUSSION:

- None

UPDATES ON OJD STRATEGIC CAMPAIGN INITIATIVES AND OTHER PROJECTS

OJD Strategic Campaign Initiatives 2.1 and 4.1

Presenter: Valerie Colas

Materials: Strategic Campaign 2020 Two-Pager

PRESENTATION:

OJD is going to extend its strategic campaign to next year. The strategic campaign teams continue to work on the projects/actions identified.

Initiative 2.1 – We will launch and participate in collaborative initiatives to better serve self-represented litigants throughout the state.

(Team: Valerie Colas and Nanci Thaemert – Co- Leads; Erin Pettigrew – Executive Lead; Judge Jenefer Grant and Judge Maureen McKnight – Judge Sponsors; Tina Qualls – Trial Court Administrator Sponsor)

- This initiative is still moving forward. Ongoing projects are the self-represented litigant legal portal, legislative concepts, and POP for facilitators, developing Title-IV program to get federal reimbursements for child support cases. Judge Maureen McKnight is helping tremendously with this initiative.

Initiative 4.1 – We will provide judges and staff with ongoing education and training in the areas of diversity, equity, and inclusion. (There is another similarly related initiative to provide training to court security personnel – Initiative 4.2).

(Team: Valerie Colas – Lead; Kimberly Rockeman – Executive Lead; Judge Darleen Ortega – Judge Sponsor; Barb Marcille – Trial Court Administrator Sponsor; Blake Dye - HRSD)

- Ongoing projects are OJD webinar series, SharePoint Site, Signature Counter Experience pilot project with Massachusetts court DEI office.

DISCUSSION

- None

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- A few members of OSCCIF will be participating in the National Consortium on Racial and Ethnic Fairness conference from May 24 – 26. The conference is virtual.
- Justice Nelson mentioned ABA-Wide 21-Day Racial Equity Habit Building Challenge has created a challenge with a focus on the Asian American and Pacific Islander experience. There will be other challenges developed for other heritage months.
- Next meeting in August 2021.