



Universidad sin Fronteras

2/19/13

San Antonio Campus

Local Campus Committee

Agenda

I Welcome/Bienvenida

Chavel gave the welcome introduction with brief comment of past meeting. Proposed the San Antonio Campus with the pedagogy and introduced the agenda. We have a proposed Liberation Spring and Freedom Summer course.

II Present/Presente

Guillermo Chávez	guichama937@aol.com	210-381-9694
Chavel Lopez: Board Member	chavel@swunion.org	210-378-5548
Robert Alvarado	ceja@swunion.org	210-922-2420
Julio Cesar Guerrero	camila@umich.edu	517-304-2743
Ruben Solis Garcia	rubensolisgarcia@gmail.com	
Sandra Garcia	sandrilee@swunion.org	
Joaquin Abrego	joaquin@swunion.org	
Luis Valdes	newcivilization2012@gmail.com	
Irasema Cavazos	domesticworkers@swunion.org	956-245-2657

III UNSIF (History: Who we are?/Historia: Quien somos?)

Start of University was 2009 while in Puerto Rico Study. Recruited Board of Directors in 2010.

The concept of University without Walls with 15 people 7 from Puerto Rico and 8 from the US as first board of directors met April 2011 to establish mission of the Universidad. Website you can see that mission statement www.unsif.org The second meeting was to develop the curriculum and methodology of the system or pedagogy. Big debate how many courses when people will register, who is going to be the dean. We are already establishing barriers. Wait lets define what it means to make this University without walls. We are not a traditional University, not here to offer the same kind of degrees that others offer, develop grassroots social movement organization and individuals. This does not exist. It is to be "Of the movement, for the movement".

Four core curriculum areas:

1. We have to know and study and understand the capitalist system
2. Oppressive systems: define and fight colonialism
 - a. What is colonialism
 - b. How do you define it? How do you fight it?
3. To undo racism we ought to share the knowledge that leads to liberated thinking
 - a. Emancipatory Education
4. Liberatory leadership

Ruben related the history of the previous seminars and courses of study. Method derived from those sessions. To learn the analysis that shared knowledge can accomplish Organization: enhance, deepen knowledge Liberatory, Emancipatory. The classes lead to discovery, start on time and end on time.

The faculty only presents the subject and everybody has an opportunity to contribute. Note taker, 10 min at the end of the class the question was posed and everyone will write a one page paper on what it meant to them. The papers are collected without names and the collective meaning is what has been developed. Not picking one person all will have to participate. The class gets documented, it is a collective experience. At the end of the 6 classes all the students get together and the question is posed again and with all the notes the collective synthesis is derived.

Faculty has to have the class by the minute to stay on time.

The 3rd board meeting in Atlanta was the 1st board meeting of the new board 2013-2014 and we had a class as well to demonstrate what it meant to be a community. It was different than what it was in the past. We now have the space to discuss these matters.

We have the Atlanta Campus, Puerto Rico Campus, San Antonio and Detroit campus. We also have Chicago, Oakland, Tempe AZ, Washington DC, Mexico City as potential campuses.

1st semester Liberation Spring

2nd semester Freedom Summer

3rd semester Emancipation Autumn

Advertise and issue the Registration Form and also provide some scholarships. \$200

Some organizations and individuals are able to pay.

Discuss:

Time Line- Execute Registrations

Curriculum & Facilitators for Classes

Analyze:

Do we have the 9 campuses open?

The local committee we discuss what course, how many classes, how many hours, faculty: are there any in the area? Do we have the resources to bring them in?

We are working to get accreditation to issue degrees. We are approaching Antioch University for that purpose.

Julio Cesar Guerrero: there is a lot of knowledge in the streets that can enhance. There are a lot also that are confused as to what empower means. We were working with unions at one time, there was one person that supposedly had certain knowledge but was unwilling to acknowledge the class divide. Needing to acknowledge that the old thinking of the past got us into this situation, the colonialism thinking.

Chavel: Education can go both ways, to a corrupt system or to construct a better society

Robert: Many already have education but have never had an opportunity to share. We can let them know where we stand.

Guillermo: we have to be careful not to set ourselves apart. That this is not for just one group. We do not want to just talk to ourselves we need to engage and bring, open our minds to other possibilities. We have to be careful. One of the major things that invades our psyche that we are colonized, even the Aztecs. We need to decolonize. It does not matter how much knowledge we have there is something that unconsciously brings us down. What dynamic will allow us to go beyond that? We have a good opportunity, it is very exciting.

Joaquin: I attended at UTSA I experienced a lot of racism. Every day telling me throw your ideas away so I left. I'm not using any of the skill from then, some things that I learned from there but I grew up in this as activist. I was not taught this gives me an opportunity to open up a dialogue. We are in the thick of it and I am at a time to be a guerrero, listening to how someone speaks, I am very simple, but I would like to attain some of the language, I'm hoping to be part of the process.

Irasema: I am very excited. I have been reading a lot and learning what I always knew had been kept from us when we studied history in school. I heard it from my parents and their parents but now I am able to connect some of that with what had been hidden from me.

Sandra: I'm learning a lot more here. I got here as an intern. I felt I had been caged with other students. I want to learn from others and teach at the end.

Ruben: That is exactly the point I want to make. The ones that came out of the first class also started to teach. We want to develop teachers as well. We look at the knowledge as it is applied to the new moment. Things have changed. How do these impact us? Even the development of things around us that did not exist and have come to be. The youth today are living a whole new experience in a whole new world. What is the difference of the 20th century and the 21st century? It seems that nothing changes but we are in a new generation. The young are rolling with it, we are not against each other but we are living in different times.

We look at history but not to regurgitate but to reapply it to our new reality. ReGenerate!

Not only a University Without Walls but also a University Without Borders. We are colonized, how do we decolonize? How do we begin?

They used to call it La Raza but it is also happening in Mexico where we are all Raza. The capitalist, what capitalists?

How do we cut this down? Gender? Sexualality? Who invented the division between ethnicity, racism? Not just one person, but we all get to the true level of the definitions. Collective knowledge.

Julio: we have to get to a curriculum that is relevant to our area. Tengo verguenza que he hido a muchas conferencias y no he aprendido nada. We figured that the curriculum methodology is to come up with 2 to 5 groups and go away with a Project and come back and report what they had come up with. Some worked some just got home and forgot it all. Some did come back with some info.

Robert: Eventually after every conference I put one point from this and that conference I learned a lot of cultures and from a lot of people that I have met. I have been able to share, sometime I wished I could go back to bring more of what I learned.

Ruben: We bring back from the relations we make. As a saying from the native peoples says, "I am my relations."

We have been looking at some books about Texas History. We don't have to make the curriculum on the books.

Arrival of Luis Valdez, working out of the Martinez Womens Center. I heard of this meeting and thought I would come by. Some info was shared on what was being discussed.

Chavel: mentioned some of the books being read

Angolos and Mexicans, Juan N. Cortina, plus other books.

Liberation and colonialism: What is the moment today?

Chavel: Liberation Spring

What will the curriculum be?

Colonialism – Decolonizing (Place and Space) (culture: music the corridor)

Tuesdays 6pm – 8pm (Terrific Tuesdays)

What faculty?

Freedom Summer

The above matters will be discussed at our next meeting.

VI Next Meeting/Siguiente Junta

March 12th Tuesday 6:30pm

Announce Registrations for April for classes to go thru mid-May

Online access to classes – check on technology

Virtual Library – Reading materials to be online

Impact of culture on colonialism

5 hour seminar on the impact of music – opportunity to delve into the corridos and other music (Jarana)

VII Adjourn/Se Acabo