CASS Diversity & Inclusion

Kevin Ferguson | CASS Diversity Champion 22 April 2020

CSIRO ASTRONOMY & SPACE SCIENCE www.csiro.au



Outline

New CASS Diversity Champion – An Introduction

CASS D&I Review and Recommendations



New CASS Diversity Champion and Chair of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee

Who am I...?

- ➢ 5th year at CSIRO
- Group Leader and member of CASS Executive team
- Head of WA Operations, located in Perth
- Engineer; not an Astronomer/Scientist

(Fellow of the Institution of Engineers Australia, FIEAust and Chartered Professional Engineer, CPEng)

1st month in role as CASS Diversity Champion

New CASS Diversity Champion and Chair of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee

...why me?

- Strong advocate for positive change:
 - Varied working environments
 - DNFC Representative for CSIRO's Balance Project
 - CASS Representative for CSIRO's Risk Management Steering Committee
 - Involved with the recent addition of ESA New Norcia to CASS
 - ✤ led to opportunity for the Station Manager (OIC) role to be held by a female engineer
 - ✤ a first for CASS and ESA

New CASS Diversity Champion and Chair of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee

...but seriously, why me?

Correct Balance of Talent

Opportunity for Staff Development & Growth

A great working environment!



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CASS D&I Review and Recommendations



Why a Review?

- Organisations benefit from conducting periodic reviews
- > Diversity Champion (Jane Kaczmarek) was relocating overseas
- > Provided suitable opportunity to conduct continuous improvement review:
 - Diversity Champion role
 - Diversity and Inclusion Committee



Three (3) Primary Recommendations:

- 1. More Structure
- 2. More Engagement
- 3. More Action



Three (3) Primary Recommendations:

1. More Structure

- to increase the attendance levels at meetings
- to provide greater clarity of goals
- to achieve more progress on initiatives
- to increase visibility and engagement with CASS Executive



Three (3) Primary Recommendations:

- More Structure Actions
 - D&I Committee to report to the CASS Executive
 - Diversity Champion to provide Quarterly Report to CASS Executive
 - Terms of Reference (ToR) produced and approved by CASS Executive
 - D&I Committee develop a D&I Annual Plan
 - Monthly meetings to track against Annual Plan
 - Annual Plan to be supported by CASS Executive endorsed Communications Plan
 - 12-month calendar of pre-scheduled and diarized D&I Committee meetings



Three (3) Primary Recommendations:

- 2. More Engagement
 - \circ Leadership
 - Committee Members



Three (3) Primary Recommendations:

More Engagement - Actions

Leadership

- CASS Director is the D&I Committee Sponsor and attends meetings by invitation
- Chief Operating Officer is a member of the D&I Committee
- At least one (1) Program Director is a member of the D&I Committee
 - If that Program Director is unable to attend, another Program Director is to attend in their absence.

Three (3) Primary Recommendations:

More Engagement - Actions

Committee Members

- Committee Members to discuss their responsibilities with their Manager and record in APA's
- D&I Committee is comprised of diverse and inclusive members
 - location, age, experience, abilities, ethnicity, gender, seniority
 - use of Expressions of Interest (EOI) to assist



Three (3) Primary Recommendations:

3. More Action

 Unanimous agreement that the previous Diversity Champion (Jane Kaczmarek) has been an excellent Diversity Champion.

More Action - Actions

- Tasking of specific committee members/small groups to progress initiatives or actions
- Distribute the workload across the Committee Membership
- Progress reporting during Monthly D&I Committee meetings required



Three (3) Primary Recommendations:

More Structure 🕂 More Engagement 🗖 More Action

CASS Diversity & Inclusion

Status 2020

- ✓ New CASS Diversity Champion and Chair of D&I Committee identified and in the role
- ✓ New CASS D&I Implementation Schedule drafted
- ✓ New CASS D&I ToR drafted for comment
- EOI's to be drafted along with clear expectations of role
- D&I Annual Plan to be drafted for CASS Executive approval
- Regular D&I diarized monthly meetings to commence
- COVID-19 Implications?



Thank you Jane Kaczmarek