

Circular

EVALUATION AND REVIEW OF INSTITUTIONAL RACE EQUALITY POLICIES

11 July 2007

Ref: W07/24HE

To: Heads of higher education institutions in Wales;

Summary: HEFCW has a statutory role, under the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000, to monitor the performance of higher education institutions in relation to their role as employers. Institutions are themselves also required by law to report annually on the outcomes of their own monitoring, in terms of both students and staff.

Response by: 9 November 2007

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1. As you know, HEFCW has a statutory role, under the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000, to monitor the performance of higher education institutions in relation to their role as employers. Institutions are themselves also required by law to report annually on the outcomes of their own monitoring, in terms of both students and staff.
2. We currently fulfil our role by inviting institutions to submit, with their strategic plans, copies of the annual reports which they should have already prepared in line with the Act. Institutions should publish the outcomes of their race equality monitoring, as expected under the Act, and plan on the basis that the latest annual report should be submitted to HEFCW by the 20th July 2007 deadline, as already requested in Circular W07/13HE.
3. In addition, in 2006/07 we commissioned an evaluation and review of institutional Race Equality Policies from the Gus John Partnership (GJP). Copies of a confidential individual institutional report and an overview on the sector were sent to you on 26th April 2007, together with an Overview Report on the Performance of the Sector in Implementing the RRAA 2000, and a dissemination seminar was held on 10th May.
4. In the light of this work, we are now inviting you to provide us with a brief report on how you are taking forward the recommendations in your individual GJP institutional report. We would be grateful to receive this by the November Annual Monitoring Statement deadline. We would also welcome your comments on the Overview Report.
5. Responses on the GJP review can be made via post or by emailing vikki.burge@hefcw.ac.uk by 9th November 2007.