

## President's Commission on Diversity Meeting Notes–February 1 2016

Present: Andy Feinstein, Stacy Gleixner, Debra Grunwald, Mandeep Kaur, Michael Kimbarow, Sue Martin, Lydia Ortega, Fernanda Perdomo, Acciniegas, Michael Randle, Jeanette Somo, Meg Virick, Hyon Chu YBaker.

Absent: Reggie Blaylock, Astrid Davis, Frances Howard, Andrew Hsu, Veronica Mendoza Hand, Mary Okin, Julie Paisant, Hector Perea, tza Sanchez.

GUEST: Sarita Bronstein, Executive Director of Silicon Valley.

CoChair Feinstein brought the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Updates on action items:

1. Update on Diversity Awards (Stacy Gleixner): The overall sentiment is to hold the SJSU Arthur Dunklin Awards Diversity Champions Luncheon event every other year. These two events are not happening this year. The Arthur Dunklin Awards recognize four individuals: student, administrator, faculty and staff member for helping to create a welcoming inclusive and supportive campus community by modeling diversity and inclusive excellence. Assembly member Evan Low has contacted us to give commendations from his office again to students. His commendations recognize ten SJSU students for their work in diversity and inclusive excellence.

There are endowment opportunities through University Advancement to offset event cost/expenses. The President's Office has been using campus climate account monies to cover expenses for these events, but would be good to explore the idea of putting through an endowment request. To that possible end, the PCDI will Vice President for University Advancement, Paul Lanning, to attend the commission's March meeting, to speak about the

- the SJSU community and take ownership of the survey results and put forth recommendations to resolve our campus climate issues.
- b. Having the faculty work with students to learn to analyze the campus climate survey results data surfaced as a first step idea.
  - c. Hold a Spring Open Forum to present the campus climate survey results and engage campus community to discuss the survey findings and make suggested recommendations to move the campus forward toward creating a more welcoming campus community. Identify campus folks who can serve to maintain good level of conversation and be able to answer tough questions.
  - d. Survey results presentation to the different campus councils/groups, such as SALT, Academic Senate, Associated Students, AALT, will continue this semester. So far, presentations have been made to the President's Cabinet, the PCD and the University Council of Chairs and Deans (UCCD)

The PCD is developing a means to get input from campus on the actions that should result from the campus climate survey results.

#### Next steps

- x The PCD ~~ed~~ to engage the campus in conversation about the campus climate survey results with the goal of soliciting recommendations on specific actions the university can take moving forward in creating a more welcoming and inclusive campus climate.
- x The PCD ~~reviewed~~ the Diversity Master plan to identify action items that have not materialized, for the new CDO to work on upon arrival. ~~If~~ PCD members have any suggested edits to the status of each item, they should email Stacy.

#### 4. Concerns of Jewish Students on Campus ~~Sarita~~ Sarita Bronstein time certain:

Ms. Sarita Bronstein, Executive Director of Hillel of Silicon Valley (a home away from home inspiring Jewish students to connect to Jewish life and Israel) addressed concerns about the safety and well-being of Jewish/Israeli students who are experiencing an increasingly hostile environment. Much more attention needs to be given to this complex issue so that Jewish students can feel free to be openly Jewish and feel safe expressing support for Israel. ~~As an~~ increasing percentage of Jewish students are reporting having witnessed or experiencing anti-Semitism on campus. The divestment resolution passed by our Associated Students last fall created increased tension between the members of our campus ~~extended~~ extended community.

Several recommendations for resolution were put forth to the PCD by Ms. Bronstein as follows:

- x Establish a Jewish Success Task Force
- x Jewish representation on PCD
- x Disciplinary process for those creating disruption/intimidation ~~or~~ or stereotypical allegations about Jews.
- x Building of campus community platforms for civil discussions.
- x Offered grants for funding efforts.
- x Work to help ~~Palestinian/Israeli~~ bring funding/speakers

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m. The next meeting is ~~held~~ held for Monday, March 7, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m., in ADM 167.