President's Commission on Diversity Meeting Minutes – March 9, 2015

Present: Astrid Davis, Andy Feinstein, Debra Griffith, Lynda Heiden, Fernanda Karp, Carmen

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This speaks to sort of the same growing concerns that our own Jewish community is experiencing and asked if the PCD should take steps to address this issue and/or respond to our campus in some manner.

Next Steps:

- Look into addressing overall campus not feeling safe/welcomed. Perhaps have a venue where they can meet to voice concerns.
- Look into bringing back the campus "Difficult Dialogues" that professor Shawn Spano started back in 2004 with support from the Ford Foundation.
- Look into addressing these issues before the Chief Diversity Officer position is put in place.
- 3. Campus Climate Survey (Meg & Lydia): The final pilot for each of the surveys has been taken care of with good feedback received. The student survey will be sent first, followed by the faculty and staff surveys. Director Mike Cook from Information Technology Services (ITS) will be sending the surveys. The deadline to complete the surveys will be two weeks from the date sent. A reminder to complete the survey will be sent to everyone, even if they have responded.

Next Steps:

- All surveys ready for distribution. Mike Cook from ITS will be sending the surveys.
- 4. Spring Forum/s (Stacy, Itza, Michael, Fernanda, Mary, Veronica, Carmen, Aditya): The Spring Open Forum date and location have been confirmed (Tuesday, April 28, 12:00 to 2:00 p.m., in the S.U. Theater). The stage is small and will not allow for using the same setup as last time (there is no option for the screen above the panelists). However, we can start with the screen down and speaker at a podium on the side for the presentation part. Then raise the screen to reveal tables and chairs for panelists behind the screen. President Qayoumi will welcome all and make introductions. Andy will speak to updates on all academic affairs initiatives, while Renee will provide updates on all student affairs initiatives. A question/answer session will follow. A moderator will be identified for the Q&A portion. We will have open mike questions as well as written questions on cards. Providing food and entertainment is still being considered and will report back to the PCD as soon as possible. Advertising will play a key factor and will be done electronically to the campus community and extended community.

Itza made contact with our campus Spartan Dailey newspaper. Spartan Dailey will be reaching out to Stacy for an interview in regard to the planning efforts for these two events and the PCD overall.

The Diversity Champions Luncheon date and location have been confirmed (Wednesday, May 13, 12:00 to 2:00 p.m., in MLK 225). The sub-committee is planning a buffet lunch; a poster session with some sort of raffle to promote mingling to the posters; a