Division of Academic Affairs  
Diversity Task Force  
Wednesday, February 1, 2017  
3-4:30 PM  
President’s Conference Room, Green Hall  
Minutes

Present: Don DeHayes, Michelle Fontes Barros, Trish Morokoff, Jason Kolbe, Peter Larsen, Janie Palm, Furong Xu, Alycia Austin, Lynne Derbyshire, Barb Silver, David Bidwell, Faye Boudreaux-Bartels.

1. Minutes of the November, 29, 2016 meeting were approved.

2. Announcements:
   a. Discussion of current events and effects on our work. Should we be working proactively rather than reactively? Should we develop a strong statement of values and distribute to the community? We need to take actions that follow expression of values: what can each of us do to be proactive? Some of our actions do not take much time but make a difference. We can help students with these strategies. Perhaps work through the Student Senate? Develop series of brown bags on different topics, such as the nature of truth.
   b. Summit debrief: surfaced a number of issues that we can do something about. The presentations and student commentary were very powerful.

3. Multicultural Faculty Fellowship Program—revised RFP—again! The task force reviewed the changes and made more suggestions for revisions. Faye, Trish, and Jason have agreed to make further revisions and then circulate to the task force through email for review.

4. Multicultural Enhancement Funds:
   a. A draft proposal developed by Annemarie Vaccaro for Multicultural Competency Workshops for faculty was circulated.
   b. Feedback from the task force on the proposal: we need to attract more than the faculty and departments who are already concerned about these issues. We also need the buy-in and support by higher level administrators (e.g., deans). We can help the other diversity task forces by showing leadership on these issues. The Diversity Commissions and committees are now meeting led by Joanna Ravello to pull together this work. We need to emphasize that the focus needs to be on pedagogy and curriculum.
c. Can we involve the diversity committees in this endeavor? Is videotaping of the workshops possible?
d. We will invite Annemarie to our next meeting to provide more details and provide her additional feedback on her proposal.
e. We can use the Multicultural Enhancement Funds to support.
f. Discrete interventions for students who have concerns with faculty: they need to know where to go. We will invite Dan Graney to our next meeting to discuss with us how students are guided on issues with faculty.

Link to website: [http://web.uri.edu/academic-planning/planning-initiatives/diversity/](http://web.uri.edu/academic-planning/planning-initiatives/diversity/)