Diversity In Action Group

Meeting Notes

March 18, 2014

**Members Present**: Sylvia Aguirre-Alberto, Makiko Ueda, John Vehikite, Henry Villareal

Guests: Krystal Romero,

**Review of the Agenda**

Agenda was approved as presented.

**Approval of the DIAG Meeting Notes of November 5, 2013**

Meeting notes approved with one correction to the date that Dr. Sylvia Hurtado was at CSM. Date was corrected from January 20 to January 10, 2014.

**President’s Forum for Academic Excellence: Pathways to Student Success Lecture Series**

Henry noted that the third speaker for the President’s Forum Lecture Series Dr. Laura Rendón is scheduled for April 17. Dr. Rendon is a Professor and Co-Director of the Center for Research and Policy in Education at UT San Antonio. Her presentation is titled, “Leveraging Student Strengths to Foster Success.”

**Diversity Planning Committee**

Sylvia noted that three proposals had been approved at the last Diversity Planning Committee meeting and included funding for the MANA Conference focusing on outreach of the Pacific Islander community, a presentation by Eddy Zheng scheduled for May as part of Asian/Pacific Islander Heritage Month, and Rudy Ramirez’ R&B Review. The remaining balance for the year is $150. Should no additional proposals come forth, DIAG will consider purchasing some books and posters. Sylvia also mentioned that Denaya had submitted the survey results for the Ayurvedic Medicine Lecture and the results were quite positive. Sylvia is awaiting the survey results of the Hodari Davis event and the MANA conference. It was suggested that the DIAG Funding Proposal template incorporate a statement about the importance of the evaluation surveys and their timely submission following an event. The next Diversity Planning Meeting is scheduled for April 29.

**Student Equity Plan**

Henry shared that the State Chancellor’s Office will once again be requiring that each community college submit a Student Equity Plan. At this time he is not aware of the direction that CSM will pursue to complete the plan but does believes a committee will soon be established. The date for submission of the Student Equity Plan to the State Chancellor’s Office is November 21, 2014.

**Men of Color and Community Colleges**

Henry referenced a recent report from the Center for Community College Student Engagement titled “Aspirations to Achievement: Men of Color and Community Colleges. The article notes that there is an achievement gap for men of color in community colleges, particularly for African American and Latino males. It was noted that the upcoming Umoja program being implemented at CSM in fall should help ensure the success of African Americans. Henry also mentioned that Dr. Laura Rendón is quoted in the report.

**DIAG Goals and Objectives**

Henry will provide to the committee a draft of the revised DIAG goals and objectives at the next meeting.

**National Equity Project**Krystal mentioned that she did follow up with her contacts at the National Equity Project. However, there is still the need for the College to determine what we want to accomplish. In essence, what is the problem? Should the college be investing in many different initiatives to support student success or focus on just a few initiatives? It was suggested that possibly a meeting could be held once again with the NEP representatives to explore some of these questions.

Next Meeting: April 15