

# DIVERSITY CAUCUS “MINUTES”

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2017

**In attendance:** Brenda Safford (Chair), Ricky Frazier, Gilmarie Vongphakdy, Edward Reitz (student), Jay Turner (student), Margaret Wong, Byron Thomas, Henry Ritter, Jim Brennan, Deborah Gonzalez, Adrienne Linnell, Lisa Connelly Cook, Benjamin Wendorf, Nancy Donohue-Berthiaume, Selina Boria

**On conference line:** Gaelan Benway, Cheryl Finn

## Introductions

### Diversity Budget

Selina shared the overall budget, disbursements of \$2500 each to HACE and the MLK Breakfast. Since the college gives \$2500 to the breakfast, it was requested the Caucus get 1 table without having to pay the additional \$250 for a table. Selina will make inquiry with committee.

The request for funding form is available on the Diversity Caucus webpage and all are encouraged to submit requests for funding events, activities, etc.

### Decorating and Naming HLC101

- Selina shared contribution by Gail Carberry to decorate the space
- **Decorations:** Deborah shared idea of a monthly showcase to display changing topics (monthly as Caucus decides). Amy offered idea of electronic frame with changing artwork and messages. For example – pictures of employee artwork from art show can be displayed on a rotating basis for a period of time. It was decided a small committee will work on this project – Amy Beaudry, Deborah Gonzalez, Gaelan Benway, Brenda Safford and Selina Boria
- **Naming HLC101:** The idea of naming this space has been under discussion for several years. The group tossed around some names mentioned previously and Gaelan suggested, **Social Justice Community Space**.

***Upon a motion and second, the group voted unanimously to name the HLC101 space, “Social Justice Community Space.”***

*Selina will work with Josh Martin on sign options to be brought back to the group.*

### Diversity Council Report

Byron reviewed topics discussed at the Council meetings with priority of recruitment and retention of faculty and staff and a Diversity Officer. Selina also gave an overview of her new role in the college in relation to diversity and serving as an ombudsman to the

Council and Caucus and serving to collaborate with both groups to plan events, programs etc. Dr. Pedraja requested a joint committee meeting this fall to discuss. All agreed to hold a combined Caucus/Council meeting during the next Council meeting on 11/14/17. Details to follow.

**Diversity Fares:**

Brenda requested ideas for Diversity Fares this year.

Jay T. suggested the Pride Alliance Group has not been very active on campus, but would like some promotion or more involvement/exposure. All agreed, this is a great Fare topic. Selina will look into open dates in 109A&B for remainder of year and the group will select 2 or 3 for Diversity Fares and Stand Against Racism in spring.

**Upcoming Sankofa Lecture** – Dr. Jorge Santos on November 3<sup>rd</sup> from 1 to 2pm in the Auditorium. A future lecture is scheduled for March.

**JOINT CAUCUS/COUNCIL MEETING, 11/14, 2 to 3PM, SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMUNITY SPACE (101HLC) – President Pedraja will be present**

**NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28<sup>TH</sup> 2 TO 3PM, SJC SPACE**

**Meeting adjourned at 3:10pm**