Minutes of the University Diversity Council Meeting
February 7, 2017
8:30 - 10:00 a.m., CLSA 100A

Present: Sara Cooper, Teresita Curiel, Dylan Gray, James Luyirika-Sewagudde Jr., Melanie O’Connor, Chela Mendoza Patterson, Matthew Miller, Michelle Morris, Evanne O’Donnell, Michael Pratt, Tray Robinson, Dylan Saake, Eddie Vela

Absent: Alexis Butcher, Betsy Boyd, CC Carter, Pedro Douglas, Gayle Hutchinson, Jerad Prevost, Paula Selvester

I. October 25, 2016 UDC Minutes

Chela Mendoza Patterson made the motion to approve the minutes, Tray Robinson seconded, and the motion carried. Sara Cooper, Mathew Miller and Eddie Vella abstained from the vote, as they were not present at the October 25, 2016 meeting.

II. New Member Introductions

New and continuing members introduced themselves and identified expectations they had for the UDC this spring.

Discussion ensued regarding the current political climate and the need for continued efforts aimed at providing resources for students, faculty, and staff related to navigating difficult dialogue within and outside of the classroom, as well as the role of allies. The Chico State Our Democracy website was noted as a repository for resources and M. Morris reported that similar concerns were addressed at the January 2017 AAC&U conference in San Francisco. C. Mendoza Patterson noted that fall 2016 EOP student grades were lower on average compared to previous years. M. O’Connor described the “Dear World” advocacy event that Staff Council plans to organize this spring.

III. UDC ET Updates

M. Morris reported on the Basic Needs committee, charged with addressing food and housing insecurity among students. Activities include developing partnerships with community property owners in support of student emergency housing needs, as well as outreach related to CalFresh sign ups, diverting leftover campus catered event food to students, and advocacy for expansion and relocation of the campus food pantry.

T. Robinson and M. Morris announced Black History Month as well as Love Every Body Week events.

T. Robinson provided an update on the diversity committees formed within each of the divisions, which were modeled after the Student Affairs Diversity Committee.
M. Morris provided an update on plans to further roll out the mandatory Avoiding Bias in Hiring training for search committees in support of the UDC Priority: Increase Workforce Diversity.

IV. Diversity Annual Report discussion/approval

The Diversity Annual Report assesses progress made on the 2011-2016 Diversity Action Plan goals. UDC members were asked to provide T. Robinson and Workgroup 1 with any additional feedback on the current draft by Monday, February 13, 2017.

V. Workgroup Priority/KPI Update discussion/approval

Workgroup 4 will add an additional Priority and then the document will be ready to post to the UDC website. Workgroups 1-4 are responsible for meeting to make progress on their Priorities/KPIs this spring.

VI. MCGS update/Workgroup to examine CSU Task Force on the Advancement of Ethnic Studies Report

S. Cooper, Director of MCGS, provided relevant background and an overview of the current status of the program. Office space in Siskiyou has been identified and she aims to hire an ASC soon. Student space is also available. S. Cooper would like the UDC to assist in the development of the MCGS Strategic Plan this spring. UDC Workgroup 4 members will also review the 2013 Recommendations for the Future of MCGS Report, 2007-2008 Self-Study, and CSU Task Force on the Advancement of Ethnic Studies Report in order to identify recommendations that can be implemented on campus. S. Cooper noted that she is meeting one on one with the MCGS faculty and plans to engage the Native American community, GSEC staff, HSI allies, and students throughout the strategic planning process.

VII. Workgroups

Workgroups did not meet due to time constraints and instead will meet at least once before the next general UDC meeting scheduled for March 7, 2017.