Minutes of the UDC HSI Considerations & Closing the Achievement Gap Workgroup Meeting
October 6, 2015
3:00-4:30 pm, SELV 104

Present: Michelle Morris, Deanna Jarquin, Chela Patterson
Absent: Teresita Curiel, Pedro Douglas, Vince Ornelas, Cecilia Santillan-Robles, Paul Zingg

1. HSI Coordinator position update

Teresita Curiel has accepted a full-time position to coordinate HSI efforts on campus and will begin following HR processing. Teresita will serve on the UDC and continue serving on workgroup 2.

2. 2015-2016 KPIs for HSI Status Considerations and Achievement Gap Priorities

Workgroup members present approved the Priorities and 2015-2016 KPIs for HSI Status Considerations and Closing the Achievement Gap as written.

3. Conference updates: ALASS Workshop, HACU

M. Morris reported on the ALASS Workshop she attended in Washington, DC. She will convene a meeting for those planning to attend the annual HACU conference in Miami following their travel to debrief and discuss best practices.

4. Conversations on Diversity (COD): HSI 101 and Hispanic Heritage Month (HHM) updates

C. Patterson reported on process and outcomes of the COD: HSI 101. The session was well attended with a primarily student audience. Staff, faculty and administration were also represented. Information gathered during the conversation will be useful for further HSI needs assessment planning. Discussion regarding HHM ensued. Workgroup 2 will collaborate with V. Ornelas and the Chicano Latino Council (CLC) to develop a schedule of events for next year. Cultural events may increase participation and campus engagement.

5. Communication Plan: “Voices” project

M. Morris will communicate with faculty in Social Work with expertise in digital storytelling. In addition, C. Patterson will communicate with M. Brookshaw and D. Jarquin will communicate with AS Productions to develop collaborative opportunities for this project.

6. Dream Center update

D. Jarquin indicated that the Dream Center would likely not be housed in the BMU due to Associated Students policy. A meeting with Dream Center representatives has been
planned. In addition, D. Jarquin will meet with L. Hoffman to discuss space and funding issues further.

7. Other

M. Morris reported that Strategies for Avoiding Unconscious Bias in the Hiring Process Trainings are scheduled for October 7, and Oct. 23, 2015. Additional trainings will be scheduled throughout the year. In addition, a general Unconscious Bias training is being developed and will be offered in November.

CLC members Vince Ornelas and Cecilia Santillan-Robles will be invited to serve on workgroup 2 again this year.

A discussion regarding the achievement gap ensued. The relationships among graduation rates and incoming GPA and SAT scores as well as increasing Latino student enrollment and programs such as EOP, Student Success Center, and MEP were discussed. Workgroup 2 will continue to coordinate efforts with the campus Graduation Initiative committee this year. The need for Spanish speaking employees to promote community outreach and greater parental involvement was also discussed.