Division of Student Affairs
Diversity & Inclusion Committee
Minutes; November 3, 2016

Committee Members in attendance: Walter Diaz, Chair; Josh Sumrell, Theresa Giard, Carolyn Taggart, Jennifer Haugen, Jen Boylan, Starsheemar Byrum. Absent: Alicia McKenzie, Damali Abbensetts, Cynthia Washburne, Eunice Omega, John Westcott

1) Note/Minute Taker-Theresa Giard

2) (Approval) Minutes from October 6, 2016
   a) 1st: Carolyn, 2nd: Starsheemar, All in Favor 7-0-0.

3) Trip to African American Museum will be spearheaded by Professor Gelburd

4) Webinar offering: Discussion on the Book Titled: Transforming Understanding of Diversity in Higher Education: Demography, Democracy & Discourse
   a) Friday, December 9, 3-4:30pm
   b) Student Center 221
   c) Authors and editors of the book will discuss some of the themes of the book and how some of the strategic efforts may be implemented on college campuses.

5) Professional Development opportunities:
   a) CALAHE Forum
      i) Friday, November 18th, 9am-2pm
      ii) Tunxis Community College, Farmington, CT
      iii) How do we close the achievement gap before it starts?
      iv) Registration cost: $75*
   b) Summit on Educational Excellence for African Americans
      i) Monday, December 5th, 1-5pm
      ii) Manchester Community College, Manchester, CT
      iii) Must RSVP and open to students*

6) Unity Wing Center Updates:
   a) Pride Center presented by Carolyn
      i) Friday, November 11th Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting
      ii) Friday, November 18th Collaboration with CAB for Transgender Day of Remembrance: Kate Bornstein is a Queer and Present Danger, Film in Student Center Theatre
   b) Intercultural Center presented by Starsheemar
      i) Thursday, November 3rd Blackout Day: Student driven event in solidarity with the Black Lives Matter Movement
ii) Previous: MLC Meeting lead by University Assistant Bethany Carlson on Wednesday, October 26

iii) November 1st- December 1st Angel Tree is an ongoing program – Pick and angel off the tree. Purchase an appropriate gift. Return gift to the Intercultural Center.

c) Women’s Center presented by Starsheemar

i) Student Ambassadors are doing intentional programming that further develops their critical thinking skills.

7) Peer Mentor update emailed from Damali:

   a) “We are in the midst of registration and have been meeting with lots of students these past couple weeks. We have open walk in hours, so I am unable to attend today’s Diversity and Inclusion meeting. Currently, the multicultural survey has been taking a backseat to other tasks. I plan on dispensing it within the coming week and using the results for initiatives in the spring 2017 semester. It will also allow us to include questions pertaining to students and their interactions with their faculty advisors thus far, as this is currently advisement week. I met with Star and plan on asking for MRMC funds to assist with a NASPA membership as it pertains to the NUFP program. Also, the SMDEP program and UCONN Summer Research program have application deadlines of March 1. I plan on working with Cliff in an effort to have informational sessions for the STEM students, hopefully in December.”

8) Updates for the Goals/ Objectives Matrix

   a) Summer retreat championed by Jen Boylan

   b) Starsheemar will send a Call for Proposals for the Cultural Celebrations Calendar

   c) Data report championed by Theresa and Carolyn

9) Discussion:

   a) Student organization and club diversity data report

   b) Diversity training and safe zone training for student leaders

   c) MLK Award Nominations are due on Monday, January 23rd