

**President's Commission on Affirmative Action, Equal Opportunity and Diversity
General Meeting
February 25, 2015**

Attendance: M. Cascarano, M. Coleman Carter, M. Colon, C. Cottle, J. Cutler, J. Delate, C. Drost, B. Edwards, C. Gallegos, A. Gomez, F. Hines, S. Mahoney, D. McMorrin, C. Meneghin, B. Milton, C. Molinari, R. Narasimhan, J. Penney, L. Petrozzello, D. Phillips-Clark, M. Re, C. Reyes-Cuevas, D. Rodak, T. Seaboch, , N. Vastola, L. Whitaker

I. Welcome:

Meneghin called meeting at 12:10 p.m.

A motion was made by Mahoney and seconded by Delate, to approve minutes from the January 2015 meeting. Motion was approved.

The November 2014 minutes are not available and will be approved at a later time.

II. Old Business

a. Invitation to Justice Sotomayor

Justice Sotomayor has been formally invited; her publicist was contacted. There are three September dates proposed and we expect a response in the next week or two. The contract was approved by University Counsel. This event will be the Commission's primary initiative, working collaboratively with the Montclair Book Committee and Center for Student Involvement. The CSI and Book Committee will pay for Justice Sotomayor's visit. Details will follow once the visit is confirmed.

b. Gender Neutral Bathroom Education

Cascarano updated on a February 5th incident in one of the Stone Hall bathrooms, which is an inclusive, accessible bathroom. A sign was hung on the door which read identified it as a men's only bathroom and directed users to use another women's bathroom. A staff member directed Cascarano to use another bathroom down the hall. This incident was reported to Abreu, Chair of the Bias Response Taskforce and the EOF Director was updated. Edwards noted that there is signage on the bathroom stating it is a gender inclusive bathroom. Cutler stated that the employee's supervisor should advise the staff member about the signage. Meneghin recommended that we support an educational effort on campus by providing materials to reinforce the message. Members Cascarano, Mahoney, Reyes-Cuevas and Meneghin will work on suggestions for signage.

c. Sponsorship Update

Treasurer Hines updated on the current budget.

Meneghin suggested that any group needing sponsorship should contact members Hines and Cottle. Edwards suggested that the PCAAEOD get marketing materials promotion the Commission, and offered his assistance in this endeavor.

d. Library Display Follow-Up

Meneghin encouraged members to see the PCAAEOD display at Sprague Library. She thanked the team for their efforts. A suggestion was made to have an annual display in February; member Petrozzello will inquire. Re offered a thank you to Dr. Dorothy Rogers of the Philosophy and Religion and Mr. Paul Martinez of Sprague Library for their assistance.

e. Affirmative Action Day Plans

Cottle updated on the proposed plans. The program will be held on March 23rd from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm in University Hall 1030. The topic is "Police and Community relations: National and MSU Perspective." There will be a panel and the format will include formatted questions and Q&A from the audience. Cottle requested that we submit questions him and Coleman-Carter which will be presented to the panelists to begin the dialogue. Edwards offered a webinar link which includes questions that are useful. Milton updated that Dr. Cole will be present; Meneghin will take care of facilities and will put out a call for people to attend; Cottle will reconfirm panelists before the advertising begins. It is anticipated that the Justice Studies faculty will invite classes to attend.

f. Annual Accessibility Recommendation Review

Members reviewed the "2015 recommendations on Accessibility Projects" document. A suggestion was made to add the ramp located on the 5th level of the Red Hawk Deck. Mahoney updated that there is a sidewalk planned along Webster Road, which is currently in the pricing stage. Meneghin suggested that perhaps a railing can be added to the plan since the road is steep. Members were asked to send comments to Meneghin as soon as possible.

VII. Other

Edwards confirmed that the PCAAEOD will have a table at the upcoming World's Fair. Additionally, he invited members to attend to the Unity Day Celebration on March 2nd.

VIII. Meeting adjournment - Motion made by Cottle; Seconded by Molinari. Meeting Adjourned at 1:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted by M. Colón