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MEC minutes 02/09/2017

Multi-Ethnic Experience Committee

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Multi-ethnic Experience Committee Meeting Minutes from 2.9.17

In attendance:  Adrienne Conley, Solomon Gashaw, Prince Nwaonicha, Ruby DeBellis, Thomas Genova, Hilda Ladner, and Liv Klemek

- UMTC diversity recruiter
  o Committee still interested in meeting with Patricia Izek, Morris HR diversity representative for UMM in the Twin Cities
    ▪ Regarding both faculty and staff position at UMM.
    ▪ Meeting not scheduled but will be scheduled in the near future

- EDI/MRC tabling
  o Prince voiced strong interest in tabling for the MRC so students are aware of what offices and services are provided in the MRC building.

- DiversiTea
  o Date has been tentatively set for March 30th from 3-4:30pm
  o Would professors be willing to give extra credit for attending the DiversiTea?
    • Solomon informed the committee about the pros and cons of extra credit.
  o MEC may promote DiversiTea in classes that discuss diversity to draw a higher attendance.

- College Republican emails
  o Brought to the MEC committee meeting’s attention by Argie Manolis as a student brought the concerns to her.
  o It was voiced that the emails were received by students on the listserv and that some students feel alienated based on the emails.
  o The question “Is this offensive enough to breach the student code of conduct?” was posed to the committee
    ▪ No, it isn’t breaching the code of conduct and furthermore, the students involved in College Republicans are very aware of what is provocative and what is an actual violation of the University Student Code of Conduct
  o It was suggested that MEC email the listserv pointing out the University’s values and why they are important.
  o A discussion was prompted by this incident regarding moderation of the student listserv and the committee decided they would like to have David Isreals-Swenson or Sandy Olson-Loy at the next MEC meeting to discuss how the emails are monitored.

- Bias incidents
  o The committee brainstormed ways to incorporate how to incorporate filing bias incidents on campus.
    ▪ During first year fall orientation
    ▪ Have an open session to all of campus and those who are able could attend
- Michelle Behr
  o MEC wants to invite Chancellor Behr to a meeting to discuss what she would like the MEC committee function to be
    ▪ Wait until after the DiversiTea to see what topics are raised first
- Global Village class requirements
  o MEC would like to give input on the Global Village requirements for students if at all possible