

**University of Colorado Colorado Springs  
Faculty Minority Affairs Committee  
Minutes of Meeting--August 26, 2016--10am-12pm**

**Co-Chairs:** Stephany Rose and Jeff Montez de Oca

**Attending:** Stephany Rose, Edgar Cota-Torres, Anthony Cordova, Qing Yi, Esther Lamidi, Stephan Suh, Rhonda Goodman-Gaghan, Christina Martinez, Jeff Montez de Oca, Anja Wynne, Martin Garnar, Kimbra Smith, Jesse Perez, Maria Sergia Steen, Andrea Herrera, Monica Yoo

**Recorder:** Kimbra Smith

Meeting called to order at 10:05 am

**Minutes:** of 04/25/2016 modified (reduction of estimate of Diversity Summit attendees from 300 to 250) and approved.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**1. Welcome and introductions**

Individual introductions; discussion of FMAC mission and how we work with other committees and entities on campus for new members

**2. Announcements and updates**

a. Moving Forward in Violent Times -- after brief background on this initiative, Stephany invited everyone to a facilitated discussion on recent violent events worldwide, to be held Wednesday, August 31 from 1-2:30 pm in the Library's 3rd floor apse. Martin Garnar added that Moving Forward is intended to be a year-long series of conversations and events.

b. Just Talk -- Martin Garnar updated us on some of the upcoming events, also noting that the initiative will continue indefinitely. On 09/20, in conjunction with the US and Islamophobia series organized by Carole Woodall, the library will host a discussion of the play *Disgraced* by Ayad Akhtar (5-6:30 pm, Library 3rd floor apse). We will push for broad participation in this event. In October, they will be coordinating with the MOSAIC office to host a program on diversity of political thought. In November, during International Education Week, they will host a panel featuring international students who will share their experience on coming to UCCS. Additionally, for the spring they expect to organize a screening of the film *Hidden Figures* with the Heller Center, on the work of African American women scientists in NASA, and to facilitate a conversation around trigger warnings and safe spaces on campuses.

Stephany Rose also mentioned the importance of developing UCCS as an environment in which unplanned conversations can take place.

**3. Update from Kee Warner**

As Kee is teaching, Stephany updated us on campus diversity and inclusion efforts. The Chancellor has met with a number of student and faculty groups on questions of inclusiveness and wants to follow up

on these to make sure people's voices are being heard. One initiative will be to increase faculty connections with student organizations.

#### **4. Budget update**

Nick Martinez is not here. Stephany informed us that in addition to our expected annual budget of \$5410, we were able to carry over \$957.60 from last year's budget, and Kee's office owes us \$40. Thus our budget right now is at \$6407.60 for the year. We traditionally set aside \$2000 (\$1000 per semester) to fund the FMAC Faculty Grants and \$500 toward the Diversity Award. We discussed other typical and potential uses for the budget, including significant events, the FMAC New Faculty Reception, and others.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **1. Faculty grants**

We agreed that we want to continue these (with a limit of \$250 per grant) and set a deadline for October 14 for fall proposals.

#### **2. Fall meeting schedule**

We coordinated fall meeting dates. We will meet from 10-12 on the following dates: 9/23, 10/21, 11/18.

#### **3. New faculty reception**

It was noted that the usual food budget of \$600 might not be sufficient. Jeff Montez de Oca moved that we raise the limit to \$1000. All were in favor, with the stipulation that we attempt to keep costs as low as possible. We agreed to host the reception on 4th floor AOB on September 30 from 4-6 pm. Anthony Cordova, Jeff Montez de Oca, Jesse Perez, and Rhonda Goodman-Gaghan volunteered to serve on the subcommittee organizing the event.

#### **4. Open discussion**

-- Andrea Herrera brought up the possibility of a conjoint FMAC reception/Cesar Chavez & Rosa Parks event in the spring, noting that the awards would be given out the week before spring break. Stephany suggested we might co-sponsor the awards. Jeff noted that we have moved from a campus-wide reception to a committee event.

Stephany suggested a discussion of priorities in terms of funding and whether we should focus on a significant event, perhaps linked to another event such as the system-wide Diversity Summit to be hosted at UCCS next spring. She noted that the theme has not yet been decided but that she would report to us once it was finalized. Several committee members suggested a less academic event as a kickoff to the summit; Andrea suggested a theatre piece on Black Lives Matter from UC-Riverside (possibly in conjunction with Colorado College). Andrea will look into this and get back to us.

-- We discussed upcoming leadership of the committee, as Stephany will be on sabbatical in spring and Jeff will be on sabbatical AY 2017-2018. Jeff nominated Kimbra Smith as co-chair to Stephany for Fall 2016; Anthony Cordova seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously. Jeff also nominated Kimbra as chair and himself as co-chair for the spring semester 2017. Anthony seconded this motion as well, which also passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30.