Diversity Committee Meeting- January 23,2014

***In attendance: Dr. Fernandez-Botran, Dr. Faye Jones, Dr. Lee Mayer, Dr. Michael Rowland, Pattie Allen, Ron Welch, Brian Davis, Katie Leslie, Brenda Fitzpatrick, Dr. Thomas Geoghean, Dr. Claudia Espinoza, Dr. Emily Tan, Matt Bojanowski (1st yr. medical student) and Jonathan Nguyen (2nd yr. medical student)***

The Diversity Committee began at 8:00 am with the introduction of Dr. Fernandez-Botran as the new Chair for the Diversity Committee. He replaces Dr. Deborah Davis who is currently on sabbatical. After his introduction, Dr. Faye Jones provided an update on the Climate Study. She mentioned that the HSC wants to develop a study independent from the one at Belknap campus and hopes to have more information in the spring semester. Dr. Jones then talked about the Recognized Student Organization (RSO) and the funding they are pursing. They are planning a series of “Lunch & Learn” talks and the funding will help support these activities. The next “Lunch & Learn” talk is scheduled for February 25, 2014 and the topic will be Unconscious Bias. Flyers will be distributed via email to the HSC campus and the first 50 people in attendance will be eligible for a free lunch on the day of the event.

Also planned to speak to the HSC community is Donald Lassere, President & CEO, Muhammad Ali Center, on February 7, 2014. He will present on the topic of ***Global Domestic Violence*** in Room 102 of the Medical School Instructional B-Building. Dr. Lee Mayer noted that this day is in conflict with a SMILE project the dental school is doing, so there might be low turnout for dental students at this event.

Another speaker in the plans for the HSC community is Howard Ross, founder & Chief Learning Officer of Cook Ross Inc. and an advisor to major global educational, corporate, philanthropic, and governmental organizations. His topic will be ***Unconscious Bias***. It is hoped he will be able to visit UofL on April 29, 2014 for his presentation.

Dr. Jones continued to share with the committee her plans for the Diversity and Inclusion’s “*Multimedia Project*” for the Health Sciences Campus. This photo-voice presentation will provide perceptions of diversity from Faculty, Staff, students and anyone that is willing to contribute. There will be a need for photos and written words to express diversity topics. Currently the University of Kentucky uses a similar program called “I am Diversity”, and we would like to develop something here at UofL to show the **reality of diversity**. Funding partners are needed and maybe we can partner with the Muhammad Ali Center on this project as well.

Attention was then turned to thanking Dr. Tom Geoghean for his help in developing the Diversity Newsletter. As always, there is a need for articles for publication and it was discussed that maybe a Theme will be developed in each newsletter in the future. For instance in April, we could do a theme of, “Do you know who I am”? Have an article written about a specific person and then try to decipher from the article who the person is. We should include in our newsletter the Hispanic Faculty Associations mentoring program that they just started to pair HSC Faculty with Faculty.

Dr. Michael Rowland mentioned that on January 30, 2014, at 8:00 am there will be a Cultural Competency Planning meeting to decide when the Cultural Competency Workshop can be offered to students in the fall. This year, for the Cultural Competency Workshop, we would like more faculty and staff input in the planning. Nursing and Public Health are also invited to help in the planning and it is still unclear how involved Nursing will be in attending the actual conference.

In line with the Cultural Competency Workshop, Katie Leslie from the Special Programs office, talked about the Poverty Simulation training that she, Dr. Faye Jones, Dr. Jessica Holloman (Peds Resident) and Thao Tran from the NorthWest AHEC office attended in St. Louis, Missouri back in November 2013. It is hoped that the Poverty Simulation can be used at the upcoming Cultural Competency Workshop.

Dr. Fernandez-Botran discussed for new members in attendance at this meeting the work that’s been done by UofL faculty at the nearby Nativity School. The goal is to get middle school children interested in health careers. He mentioned they did a program with the students last semester, but since it was basketball season, many of the children we preoccupied with that. They hope to restart this program in the Fall Semester and maybe extend it to other schools. Brenda Fitzpatrick from the NorthWest AHEC mentioned that maybe Video Conferencing could be a solution to deliver content to students such as the Louisville Science Center does.

Dr. Lee Mayer from the Dental school mentioned that the UofL dental school is planning a presentation on *Humanitarianism and Patient Care* sometime in March 2014. He mentioned there are many dental faculty members interested and they are working on speakers now.

At 9:00 am, the meeting was adjourned, and the next meeting will be on February 27, 2014.