School of Medicine Diversity Committee Meeting Minutes for July 23, 2015

*In attendance: Dr. Rafael Fernandez-Botran, Dr. Faye Jones, Pattie Allen, Dr. Katie Leslie, Dr. Mirzada Kurbasic, Dr. Deborah Davis, Dominique Jones, Dr. Russell Salter, Mike Croghan, Dr. Fernanda Nota, Dr. Liliana Rozo, Ron Welch, Diana Avila*

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Fernandez with a request to approve the May 2015 Diversity Committee Minutes. The minutes were approved and attention was turned to the agenda items for the day.

Dr. Fernandez-Botran provided an update on the University Diversity Report. The report was submitted, however there appears to be a discrepancy between the “official” data from institutional research and the data in the LCME report. The departmental data used for the LCME report is likely more accurate, but we need to determine how we will address this discrepancy moving forward. Karan Chavis is working on this issue. Overall, Dr. Taylor-Archer and Brian Buford were very happy with the quality of the School of Medicine Diversity Report.

An update was provided on the 2015 Cultural Competency Workshop, which will be held on Tuesday, November 10. There will be planning meeting on Wednesday, 7/29 from 2-3:30 in B201 (door code 3418). All are welcome to attend and provide input. Dr. Nota offered to give imput on any Hispanic cases that Charles Kodner is developing for the workshop.

Dr. Fernandez-Botran discussed committee membership and the possibility of preplacing students/engaging current MS1 and MS2 students. He plans to contact Tony Simms in Medical Student Affairs to find interested students. The committee also plans to contact Karen Perry in faculty affairs to enhance communication about the committee’s work and engage other faculty members.

Dr. Jones gave an update on the HSC Multimedia Project. The HSC Office of Diversity and Inclusion is currently looking at submissions to determine winners and how to display submissions to the campus community.

Dr. Jones announced that the August 2015 HSC Diversity Newsletter will focus on racism, with a dialogue on race, racism, and the effects of race on healthcare. There will also be a lunch and learn panel discussion on race open to the campus community sometime in August.

Dr. Salter shared that graduate student Hazel Ozuna is working to create a recognized student organization (RSO) chapter of the Hispanic Alliance for the Sciences. Ron Welch shared plans to list all HSC diversity-related RSOs on the HSC Office of Diversity and Inclusion website.