Diversity Committee Meeting Minutes for February 27, 2014

*In attendance: Dr. V. Faye Jones, Dr. Michael Rowland, Dr. Fernanda Nota, Brian Davis, Ron Welch, Pattie Allen, Dr. Rafael Fernandez- Botran, Dominique Jones, Callie Linden, Jonathan Nguyen, Dr. Lee Mayer, Dr. Claudia Espinosa, Katie Leslie, Brenda Fitzpatrick, Dr. Emily Tan, Dr. Tom Geoghegan, Dr. Rachel Snedecor, Dr. Kelli Dunn*

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Fernandez-Botran with a request to approve the minutes from the January meeting. Dr. Mayer made a motion to approve the January minutes, and Dr. Rowland seconded the motion. With the minutes updated, attention turned to an update on the Cultural Competency Workshop for later this year. Dr. Rowland announced again that the Workshop will be held this year on Tuesday, November 4, 2014. Ron Welch announced that there was a Cultural Competency Workshop planning committee meeting held on February 13, 2014. The RSO President, Francesca Kingery was leading the planning meetings and we are still in the brainstorming process of planning this year’s workshop. Future planning meetings will occur monthly up until the November 4th date.

Dr. Faye Jones then informed the committee about the HSC Multimedia project that she would like to include in the Cultural Competency Workshop. It will consist of photos, video and print from all four HSC schools to express diversity on campus. Faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to participate. It was brought to the attention of the committee how we are going to “get the word out” about this project. Dr. Dunn suggested a mass campus email so that everyone will be aware of the project. Dr. Jones mentioned that the April Diversity Newsletter will be a “Special Edition” focusing on articles from staff and faculty.

Dr. Jones then informed the committee that there would be a Poverty Simulation meeting on Tuesday, March 4th, 2014 from 2-3pm in the Abell Administration Building in room 109. The Poverty Simulation is a role playing simulation with participants and volunteers that show the trials and tribulations of someone trying to survive at the poverty level in our society. The hope is that this planning meeting on March 4th can brainstorm some ideas on how to implement this simulation into the Cultural Competency Workshop on the HSC campus. The goal is to have all schools (Medicine, Nursing, Dental and Public Health) participate in this extremely emotional simulation of life. Brenda Fitzpatrick, the Center director for the Northwest AHEC office, mentioned that she was going to attend a presentation of this simulation at Bellarmine University on Tuesday, March 11, 2014 and she would distribute the person’s contact information name to other members of this committee if they were interested in attending as well.

Dr. Rowland announced that the flyer for the 2014 Student Diversity Award has been distributed across campus and that the nominations are accepted up until March 17. The winner will receive a cash award after graduation as well as a plaque. Dr. Rowland mentioned there is a two-page nomination form available and the winner must demonstrate a sincere dedication to eliminating health disparities, and be a person committed to the education of a diverse health professions workforce.

Dr. Rowland then mentioned his Book Club will meet on February 28, 2014 from Noon to 1:00pm in the Instructional B-Building Room 205 to discuss chapter one of, *Seeing Race in Modern America* by Matthew Pratt Guterl. He mentioned that 22 people have signed up for the book club so far and he had extra books if anyone needed a loaner.

Dr. Jones informed the committee that Dean Dr. Ganzel of the Medical School is scheduled to meet in early March with the Diversity Chairs from each school to get an update of what the Diversity Committee is addressing. Dr. Mordean Taylor-Archer, Vice Provost for Diversity and International Affairs, is interested in faculty diversity over the last 10 years. CODRE is putting out a report to show what initiatives are in place to recruit and keep diverse faculty and what the retention rates are.

It was announced that the Diversity Newsletter for February 2014 was distributed to each school as well as being announced in the UofL Today email. It was noted that the newsletter is not reaching members outside of the University so we need a way to distribute it to them. In order to get more participation on the newsletter from other schools and departments, it was suggested that we have a contest in each newsletter with prizes for the readers.

Dr. Kelli Dunn then mentioned the work she has been doing in Community Engagement. She mentioned J.B. Atkinson and Shawnee Academy schools in Louisville that want to partner with the School of Medicine to put on Lunch and Learns for their students. She mentioned the School of Education is already heavily involved with J.B. Atkinson. She also mentioned that Valley High School, a medical magnet school, wants medical students to be on a panel for discussion to talk to students about medical careers. In the next academic year, maybe coordinate tours for these students at the HSC campus or local hospitals.

Dr. Fernandez-Botran then talked about his mentoring program, the Hispanic Latino Faculty and Staff Association (HLFSA). This group will meet on March 18, and April 16th at the Ekstrom Library Room W210 from Noon to 1:30pm for anyone interested in teaming up with a Hispanic/Latino faculty member to receive advice about their academic career. There are about 7 or 8 faculty members involved and already about 12 applicants for this mentoring program. Brenda Fitzpatrick mentioned that the Northwest AHEC office is collaborating with Saint Rita, a local catholic School in the South end of Louisville where there is a majority of Hispanic students, and was interested to see if any UofL Graduate Students would be able to assist with any upcoming summer camps.

Katie Leslie in the Diversity office closed the meeting by informing everyone present that the Diversity and Inclusion office is collaborating with the Lincoln Heritage Council –The Boy Scouts of America. They have enlisted 33 students from three local high schools, Central, Butler, and Fairdale to be in a health explorer program which will host it’s first meeting at UofL on March 11, 2014 from 4-5:30pm in the Kornhauser Library. This program will introduce health careers to aspiring students.

The meeting was adjourned, with the next meeting scheduled for March 27, 2014.