Minutes

October 13 2016
4:00 pm

Members Present: Dr. Marion Sanford, Director of JFMC; Dr. Jose Sainz (Chair); Dr. Antonio Causarano (Secretary); Dr. Leo Lee; Dr. Melody Denhere; Dr. Xiaofeng Zhao.

- The committee approved the minutes from the last meeting on 9/8/2016.
- It was announced that two students have been approved to be part of the JFMC for the year 2016-17. They are Julianna Saracho, president of the Asian Student Association and David Mercer, president of Brothers of a New Direction (BOND) and Voices of Praise. They will attend the meetings and share their perspectives on various issues.
- Marion reported that the JFMC has a new Associate Director of JFMC. Her name is JoAnna Raucci. She has a master’s degree in Student Affairs and varied experiences in multicultural programming, as well as other areas in higher education.
- An update on current cultural programming was provided by Marion. She mentioned that the Latino Identities Month celebration has been successful, thus far. The closing event is today at 5 pm in Chandler Ballroom C. The program will feature Semilla Cultural as the performance at the Feria/Dinner Theater event. The Gender and Sexual Minorities and Allies (GSMA) Celebration will begin the week after Homecoming activities. The Asian Cultural Celebration (ACC) will occur the following week. It was reiterated that the keynote performance for the ACC will not take place due to the cancellation by the group. The Taste of Asia program will conclude the ACC schedule and take place on Saturday, November 5th in the Chandler Ballroom.

Planning and preparations have begun for the spring cultural celebrations and events. The planning committees for Black History Month and the Multicultural Fair have already met to discuss the various events. The MLK and Women’s History Month committee will meet later this month.

- The JFMC staff and many of the RISE participants visited the National Museum of African American History and Culture on October 1. It was an exciting, powerful, and memorable trip for everyone who attended. There are two remaining workshops this semester for the mentees in the program. There was an outing at a local park scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 9th, but it was canceled due to inclement weather.

- Issues of diversity on campus were discussed by the members of the Committee to assess the work and next steps to take to make UMW a more inclusive place. Marion mentioned that she is on the President’s Task Force on Diversity and looking forward to the work that will be accomplished by that group.

The Committee will have its next meeting 12/1/16 at 4:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned.