Funding for Multicultural Center Literature
Multicultural and Diversity Committee

In January, 2014 Tracey Thomas informed me that a request resource submitted through the VPISD 2012-13 Program Review was approved during the program review resource request prioritization process in December 2013 for $1000.00 of instructional equipment and supplies block grant funds to purchase periodicals with related social diversity and multicultural themes for use in the Multicultural Center, to be ordered and distributed by the college librarian.

I consulted with Ruth Moon and we discussed the logistics of managing subscriptions, including ordering, paying, receiving, and distributing the resources to the center. Ruth has learned from Mary Grace McGovern of a new, part-time clerical position in the Learning Resource Center. This person can do the billing, invoicing, and process payments, and also provide routing of received materials. Per Daniel Potts, president of ASCR, the new Multicultural Center is expecting to have a part-time (16 hour a week) paid staffer (non-student). This position could work with the library staff in managing the subscriptions.

Ruth has advised setting up a renewal cycle that was in sync with the college’s budget cycle so that we know we have the funding when the bill comes due. Fall renewals are a risk; if the funding drops or is outright cancelled as has happened in the past, we are stuck and can’t pay. Renewals in Spring – April at the latest – are best.

Ruth recommended making a single order through a vendor.

Suggestions for the MDC. I have brought the item up for discussion in hope of accomplishing the following:

- Draw on faculty knowledge today to brainstorm about relevant resources and titles in order to make recommendations in an advisory capacity to the ASCR.
- Provide feedback to ASCR representatives on their ideas for resources.
- Facilitate, through this meeting, coordination between the ASCR and the LRC to decide on and initiate resource purchases.