The mission of the MDC is to assist in the development of strategies to create campus environments that promote inclusiveness as an institutional and community value. This body recommends strategies that promote student equity and academic success through the methods of multicultural and diversity education. It also fosters the recognition of diverse groups, supports inter-group communication and works to promote equality. Additionally, the committee works to create a community that engenders social advancement by moving beyond passive tolerance to embrace diversity as a valuable resource to be preserved and extended.

Minutes

1. Call to Order
Meeting was called to order at 11:41 AM
Present: Julie Raich, Kristy Carlsen, Dave Bazard, Sean Herrera-Thomas, Philip Mancus, Valerie Guilmette

2. Introductions and Public Comments: Members of the audience are invited to make comments regarding any subject appropriate to the Multicultural and Diversity Committee.
Kristy stated that Lisa Sales offered to work on ESL diversity training. She has experience at her former educational institution. Sean conveyed Deanna’s suggestion that homophobia be added to the MDC’s training plans.

3. Approve the April 4, 2014 Meeting Minutes and April 11 Notes from the Special Meeting
April 4 Minutes: Sean moved, Dave seconded, approved unanimously. April 11 Notes: Dave moved, Sean seconded, approved unanimously.

4. Action Items
4.1 Approve the List of Convocation Activities from the April 11 Special Meeting (see the Notes from the 4-11-14 special meeting)
Move to approve, Dave, seconded Sean. Discussion. Philip: The list is a proposal for diversity training sessions to be offered by MDC members during convocation 2014-15. These were forwarded to Connie Carlson on April 17. The intention today is to formally approve these activities as an action of the MDC and to ensure commitment to see them through. Dave: working with Connie moving forward, we have flexibility until the program is published, so using these as a working model we can still adjust if and when necessary. Philip: for example, the QSU students working with Michelle have sent in a request for their own session. Kristy: Lisa Sales will work with us as well as some English faculty who can help.
There was brief discussion on the specific kinds of strategies to be included in the ESL session. The committee agreed that MDC members would need to collaborate with multiple colleagues across the college to shape the flex activities into their final form. The actual number of sessions we will get is undecided at this point. Role call vote: Dave Bazard, y; Sean Herrera-Thomas, y; Julie Raich, y; Kristy Carlsen, y. Motion passed unanimously. Philip: This approved list will be forwarded to Tracey Thomas, Keith Snowflamer and the Academic Senate copresidents.

5. Discussion
5.1 Call for Nominations: MDC Chair for 2014-15
Philip: the chair is a two-year position. It’s time for a new chair. Dave: Is there reassign time for being MDC chair? Answer: No. Valerie: can the student representative make a nomination? Answer: a student would be free to approach a member of the faculty and convey his or her confidence in that person as future chair of the committee. Philip: please communicate to your colleagues whoever might be interested
to self-nominate or, nominate them yourselves and send those names to me. The list will be brought forward as an action item next time to select a chair.

5.2 Call for Nominations: Annual Diversity Award 2013-14
Philip: it is time to request nominations for the 2013-14 annual diversity award. Look for an email with the nomination form. Dave: Is there a list of past awardees and will that go out with the email. Answer: yes. Philip: please make a nomination and encourage your colleagues to do so.

5.3 Annual Diversity Calendar (attachment)
Kristy: Dana Maher and Kristy had the idea to show films. At Modesto Junior College there was a committee responsible for diversity event planning. Dave: what role does the calendar committee, union driven, play? They establish with the district an agreed upon calendar including the dates for spring break, holidays, etc. Philip: how can we make it not only official college but part of our culture? Julie: One idea is to parallel what we do with HSU, since they already do this. Philip: how to coordinate that and any other type of collaboration? Kristy: The activities need not be too grandiose: a reading on MLK Day, administration making an announcement, etc. Dave: Other planning documents can be used to garner support for this movement. The diversity in hiring plan, to make the college more attractive to diverse faculty, the student equity plan, etc., combined with the MDC to suggest that the college at administrative level recognize this calendar. If the school values this, it needs official recognition. Put the calendar in the catalog so the average student can access. Valerie: that would be a good tool so that the calendar can go to club advisors and they can organize their activities accordingly. Sean: we have a number of initiatives in our planning documents that would fit and this calendar could be one of them. Dave: we could bring to the senate a recommendation.  Sean: at the Institutional Effectiveness Summit we can take talking points into the various discussions. Philip: the recommendation can go to the Student Equity Planning Committee with the suggestion to amend the SEP. That committee can serve to integrate a diversity heritage calendar into institutional planning to ensure administrative buy in and oversight. The committee agreed to the chair’s proposal to bring this item will back at the next meeting of the MDC, with the inclusion of California Native American Day and Cesar Chavez Day. Future action will be to recommend a proposed calendar to the academic senate for full senate approval and to the SEPC as an informational report and recommendation.

6. Reports
6.1 Report from the Student Equity Planning Committee, Philip Mancus
No report given due to adjournment.

7. Announcements/Open Forum
None made due to adjournment.

8. Adjournment
Meeting adjourned at 12:45 PM

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Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting:
Friday May 2, 2014 at 11:15 AM