



DATE: April 16, 2013

FROM: Larry C. Backer
 Robert N. Pangborn

TO:	Brian Aynardi	Antwain Hunter	Karyn McKinney Marvasti
	Gordon Blood	Patreese Ingram	Curtis Price
	Mark Brennan	Krishna Jayakar	Evan Riddick
	Melissa Creely	Ariel Johnson	Jo Tyler
	Barbara Dewey	Terrell Jones	Theresa Vescio
	Caleb Fernandez	Jonna Kulikowich	Carlos Wiley
	Jesus Hinojosa	Yanni Mai	

SUBJECT: Joint Diversity Awareness Task Force

Following the January 29, University Faculty Senate meeting, President Rodney Erickson and University Faculty Senate Chair Larry Backer called for the formation of a Joint Diversity Awareness Task Force. The purpose of this Task Force is to bring a diverse group of administrators, faculty and students together to work collaboratively to engage in dialogue and provide recommendations to the University Faculty Senate and the Administration to enhance diversity awareness in the University Community. We hope that you will accept an invitation to participate on the Task Force.

The primary objective of the group will be to thoroughly investigate practices that will be most effective to increase diversity understanding among the student body. The Joint Diversity Awareness Task Force has the opportunity to make a lasting impact within the general education curriculum and other curricular and co-curricular learning experiences of both current and future Penn State students. Therefore, it will provide recommendations to the Faculty Senate committee charged with reforming the general education curriculum as a whole. Effective change will take both time and careful consideration. The specific timelines for such recommendations will be determined by the task force once the group is assembled.

We ask that you indicate your willingness to participate as a member of the committee to Monica Nachman at mln2@psu.edu by Monday, April 22. The University Faculty Senate Office will be in touch with you in the near future to schedule the charge meeting for the group. Thank you in advance for your participation in this important Task Force.

cc: Rodney A. Erickson
 Brent Yarnal

**Joint Diversity Awareness Task Force
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