DATE: April 16, 2013

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    Ariel Johnson
    Terrell Jones
    Jonna Kulikowich
    Yanni Mai
    Karyn McKinney Marvasti
    Curtis Price
    Evan Riddick
    Jo Tyler
    Theresa Vescio
    Carlos Wiley

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 mlh2@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 Yamal
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