University Senate’s Diversity Committee Meeting Minutes (submitted by M. Desai)

Meeting held at 2 pm, Sept. 22 2015

Present: Elizabeth Conklin, Manisha Desai, Alice Fairfield, Dave Lillo Martin, Ana O’Donoghue (undergrad admissions), Willena Price, Pam Schipan, Chriss Sneed (Grad women of color rep), John Zack.

(1) The members present agreed to meet on the Tuesday after the Senate Meeting at 3 pm in the Senate Conference Room.

(2) Most of the discussion at the meeting revolved around the Report of the Taskforce on Diversity. In particular, we discussed how we could contribute to the structure of the proposed diversity council; ensure that credit was given during PTR to serving on such a council.

Three action items emerged from our discussion:

(1) Invite Provost Choi to discuss his plans of action based on the recommendations of the Taskforce.

(2) Respond in writing to the Taskforce Report. In preparation for this, all diversity committee members are urged to read the report for the next meeting when we will discuss and draft our response. The report can be found on the President’s website: http://president.uconn.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/193/2015/08/2015-08-Draft-Diversity-Report.pdf

(3) Propose a change to the University By-laws regarding the language of Article 15. While the OED’s website reflects annual changes in policies these are not reflected in the University By-laws, which we all agree are a visible statement of the University’s commitment to Diversity. Please read the article in preparation for drafting the proposed change.