July 16, 2020

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Re: Task Team to Address Engagement, Community, and Sense of Belonging

Dear colleagues,

I am writing to confirm your participation as a member of the Task Team on Engagement, Community, and Sense of Belonging. Each of you were selected because of your unique perspectives and contributions to student engagement on campus and because of your dedication to student success.

Over the last several months and weeks, colleagues from across campus have been engaged in various aspects of planning and preparation to support response during the COVID-19 pandemic and in preparation for remote instruction and service delivery, and the future return to campus. The Academic Recovery Planning Workgroup has been guiding these efforts with a number of sub committees and task teams engaged in various activities.

You are invited to participate in one of three task teams established by the Division of Student Affairs and Success. Each task team will meet regularly over the next few months, to research and explore a number of guiding questions and to develop recommendations that are responsive to those questions in the context of the CP/EVC's guidance that we "develop plans to return to our mission of being a fully residential research university, recognizing that we will do this in a post-pandemic world".

Guiding Questions for the Task Team on Engagement, Community, and Sense of Belonging:

- What are the opportunities for community-building given that our instruction/service/engagement modalities are primarily remote?
- How do we support students through moments of transition or milestones?
- What does engagement look like now and what do students need to feel engaged? How do we track engagement?

- In terms of creating an equitable and ethical community of safety, how can we help ensure that students do not feel disparate treatment in terms of policies and protocols that are established related to access to buildings, wearing PPE, etc.?
- What impacts on students do we anticipate as we return to more in-person learning and service delivery? What will students need?
- What impacts of COVID-19 and remote operations negatively impact equity of student success outcomes, and how do we address those?
- Each task team will work in collaboration with the Fostering Care and Community campus workgroup to produce a 90-minute workshop. The project lead will provide more details.

Deliverables and Timeline:

Task team leaders will coordinate with Lucy Rojas, the project manager for this process, to share the progress that the task teams are making and to share options and recommendations as they emerge (to assist with the socialization and implementation process). Each task team is asked to update the project manager regularly with findings and recommendations, with an initial set of options and recommendations made no later than Friday, August 28th. The work of the task teams will continue into fall quarter with adjustments made to timeline and outcomes to be based on actual circumstances.

In terms of deliverables, please consider developing ideas, options, and recommended actions that can be implemented by a variety of services and units. For example, in response to the guiding question: *In terms of creating an equitable and ethical community of safety, how can we help ensure that students do not feel disparate treatment in terms of policies and protocols that are established related to access to buildings, wearing PPE, etc.*? The task team may:

- Recommend and draft a values statement supporting the fair and equitable implementation of requirements to wear facial coverings.
- Develop a script/sample conversation starters to initiate interactions about wearing facial coverings that are non-confrontational.

We will launch the three task teams all together on Wednesday, July 22, 2020 at 1:00 pm. You will receive a calendar invite shortly. We look forward to seeing you.

Please contact me or task team leader Garrett Naiman should you have any questions.

Thank you in advance for your participation and service. I know your time is valuable and I deeply appreciate you lending some of it to this important process.

Appreciatively,

Jennifer Baszile

Interim Vice Chancellor

Jennefer Bazile

Division of Student Affairs and Success

University Librarian Cowell cc:

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