November 30, 2020

HSI Task Force
UC Davis

Re: HSI Task Force Phase 2 – Implementation

Dear Colleagues:

I write today to invite you to serve on the HSI Task Force as it enters Phase 2 - Implementation. Convened in 2018, the HSI Task Force was originally charged with defining what success meant for a research intensive, public land-grant, Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) in California, a state where more than half of all high school graduates are Latinx.

That goal was met. I wish to thank all members of the original task force, and especially the two co-chairs, Raquel Aldana and Rahim Reed, for producing the 2019 report, *Investing in Rising Scholars and Serving the State of California: What It Means to be a Hispanic Serving Institution*. Deeply researched and emerging from many conversations with students, faculty, staff, community leaders, and public officials, the report adopted an asset-oriented view of “rising scholars” and presented a vision of UC Davis as “a culturally responsive learning community that fulfills the mission of a Research 1 and land grant university, closing the equity gap in higher education; enabling all of its community members, including Rising Scholars, to thrive and reach their full potential; and elevating our excellence in public service and scholarship.”

In support of that vision, the report outlined 11 top priorities for the Davis campus and four main goals - and within those goals, more than 50 recommendations. Under the leadership of Lorena Oropeza, Interim Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Diversity, and Mark A. López, Chief of Staff to Vice Chancellor Tull, the Implementation Task Force is charged with developing subcommittees to implement specific recommendations, particularly in regard to recruitment, retention/persistence, communications, and funding.
Also, I ask that the task force provide a summary accountability report outlining what strategies these subcommittees have developed, and what goals they have achieved, by June 27, 2021. If you do not wish serve on a subcommittee of the Implementation Task Force, please let Mark or Lorena know by December 15.

I realize that, in an era of a pandemic and budget deficits, a reframing of priorities may be in order. Despite the rising enrollments of Chicanx/Latinx students, in 2019, and HSI grant awards in 2020 based on domestic enrollments and partnerships, UC Davis has not received the U.S. Department of Education’s official federal HSI designation. Certainly, part of the work of the Implementation HSI Task Force will be to move forward under these difficult circumstances.

Thank you for your contributions to this vitally important undertaking that will enhance the services and support UC Davis provides to all our students.

Best regards,

Gary S. May
Chancellor

attachment – HSI Task Force member list
HSI Task Force – Implementation
Member List

Neptaly “Taty” Aguilera, California Aggie Alumni Association, Board Member
Ignacio “Nacho” Alarcón, Assistant Director, AB540 and Undocumented Student Center
Raquel Aldana, Professor of Law (Co-chair of HSI Report Task Force)
Edwin Arevalo, Executive Director, Academic Senate
Sheri Atkinson, Associate Vice Chancellor, Student Life, Campus Community and Retention Services
Molly Bechtel, Chair, Staff Assembly
Laura M. Bohóquez Garcia, Director, AB540 and Undocumented Student Center
Caroline Cabias, Chicano Latino Alumni Association
Griselda Castro, Emerita Associate Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs
Laura Cerruti, Analyst, DEI
Cynthia Ching, Interim Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Education
Lillian Cruz-Orengo, Assistant Professor, Anatomy, Physiology, and Cell Biology
Marcela Cuellar, Associate Professor, School of Education
Natalia Deeb-Sossa, Associate Professor, Chicano and Chicana Studies
Efren Diaz, Chicano Latino Alumni Association
Leticia Garay, Latino Staff and Faculty Association
Alicia Garcia, Graduate Student, School of Education
Jorge Garcia, Health Sciences Associate Clinical Professor of Internal Medicine, and Faculty Director of Student and Resident Diversity
Blas Guerrero, Director, Strategic Diversity Recruitment Initiatives and Transfer Programs
Don Hunt, Associate Vice Chancellor, Enrollment Management
Carlos Jackson, Chair, Chicana and Chicano Studies
Kevin Johnson, Dean, School of Law
Kristin Lagattuta, Professor, Psychology
Mark A. López, Chief of Staff to Vice Chancellor of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, (Co-chair, Implementation Task Force)
Sergio Maravilla, Undergraduate, Anthropology, Community and Regional Development
Alma Martínez, Student Affairs Officer, Chicana and Chicano Studies
Lina Mendez, Interim Director, Center for Chicanx and Latinx Academic Student Success
Josephine Moreno, Graduate Diversity Officer, HASS and Education
Kimberly Nettles-Barcelon, CAMPSSAH Faculty Director
Tom O'Donnell, Analyst, Office of Academic Diversity, DEI
Lorena Oropeza, Interim Associate Vice Chancellor, Academic Diversity (Co-chair, Implementation Task Force)
Daniel Potter, Professor, Plant Sciences
Rahim Reed, Associate Executive Vice Chancellor, Office of Campus Community Relations, DEI (Co-chair HSI Report Task Force)
Pablo Reguerín, Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs
Elizabeth Rice, Chair, Educational Affairs Committee of the Academic Federation
Timo Rico, Executive Director, Center for Student Affairs Assessment
Cathy Rodriguez Aguirre, President and CEO, Sacramento Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
Kathryn Russ, Undergraduate Council of the Academic Senate
Rachel Teagle, Director, Manetti Shrem Museum of Art
Hendry Ton, Associate Vice Chancellor of Diversity and Inclusion
Dana Topousis, Chief Marketing and Communications Officer
Renetta Garrison Tull, Vice Chancellor of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
Mariel Vazquez, CAMPOS Faculty Director

(Updated: November 30, 2020)