I. Welcome & Check-In

II. Update – Sekile Nzinga (Chair)

III. Gender-Queer, Non-Binary, Trans Task Force Updates

- There is a financial quote outstanding for the cost to create gender inclusive bathrooms
- There will need to be language and education posted on campus regarding why the decision to have gender inclusive bathrooms is necessary and important.

IV. Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Environmental Scan Update – Louie Lainez

- The environmental scan is a first attempt to see what is happening across campus. This is a way of showing a listing on initiatives. The next steps are to put this information on the website
V. Discussion of Campus Responses to National and Campus Incidents

Lisa Corrin – I greatly appreciated Julie Payne-Kirchmeier comments about “moving beyond performative words of support.” Her offer to hear the stories and experiences of those at Northwestern who have been impacted by racial injustice was well stated. A few of these students have reached out to me, as well.

We are all so isolated right now. How can this committee help us to access these campus conversations so we can listen and learn from one another? There is no clearinghouse at the moment to enable us to participate and provide this opportunity for our staff members.

Moreover, I always appreciate an effort to link to the University resources and initiatives explicitly spearheading anti-racist (not only, non-racist) resources.

I prefer when statements from University leaders do not offer words of comfort (or point to the great “diversity” we have on campus) because they serve to absolve so many from coming to terms with their own silent complicity in the systems in which we live.

My general feeling is that when a communication can outline an action, and not just a sentiment, it becomes more powerful. The UMN statement from President Gabel, which does this well, is getting strong support from HESA and NASPA


Bob Rowley – I have been impressed and moved by the high level messages from leadership, but I was particularly energized and challenged by Julie Payne-Kirchmeier’s message because she conveyed more of a sense of the need to own, live and act on our feelings, act as an institution.

Maureen Knight-Burrell – I appreciate the email that Sekile sent out to the black community. Often time, there are general emails without speaking directly to the impacted community.

Regina Logan – It has been very helpful for me to have my classes pass/no pass. It has allowed me to give students the needed space they need to come or not come to class (amazingly most have) and to skip some assignments and still be learning.

Bennett Goldberg – Being intentional with my teams around white and anti-racist learning through reading, giving, etc.

Lisa Corrin – Putting out a commitment to which Northwestern can be helpful and accountable

Tahera – The letter is good. However many of my Northwestern Black and colleagues of color know that nothing will ever change here even at Northwestern until our White colleagues don’t look at white privilege coming from “those white people” rather than actualize it, acknowledge their own privilege, recognize the pain they may have caused even indirectly through their macroaggressions and commit to proactive actions.

Maureen – Affinity Groups are necessary.
Final Comments

- Welcome new colleague Jill Sieben-Schneider, new Associate Dean of Students and Director of AccesibleNU
- The second annual Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Summer Learning Institute will take place July 14th, 15th, 21st and 22nd. Invitations to register have been sent to all UDC members.