Members present: Bob Bliss, Deborah Burris, Maria Teresa Balogh, Lisa Busalacki, Lori Flanagan, Gina Ganahl, Kuei-Hsiang Hsueh, Jamie Linsin, Raleigh Muns, Tony Rosas, Yan Tian, Benjamin Torbert, Joann Westbrook, Linder Williams

Summary of Minutes

I) Welcome

Bob Bliss welcomed all the members and everyone introduced themselves.

II) Intellectual Diversity-Marty Rochester

Bob Bliss introduced Dr. Marty Rochester, a professor in the political science department. Marty presented his view on intellectual diversity positing that universities need more conservative views represented on campus. Marty thanked the council for the opportunity to speak. He stated intellectual diversity is a problem nationwide and to an extent at UMSL. Marty said there is a lack of diversity in ideas, and dominance in liberal ideology in higher education.

III) Diversity Plan

Deborah Burris reintroduced the Diversity Plan draft. She asked the committee members for input. Raleigh Muns suggested prioritizing the items.

The committee put the nine suggestions in three categories to demonstrate priorities: A, B, and C. The members decided on the following components in the three categories. Category A includes: design and implement a campus wide cultural competency program, include a diversity assessment in the five year review, and create a more inclusive campus environment for hourly employees. Category B includes: offer and market a wide range of diversity courses and degrees, develop and implement a recognition program for inclusion and diversity, and create a coordinated marketing effort for diversity events on campus. Category C includes: offer faculty professional diversity development, provide faculty mentoring, and offer programs for prevention of sexual harassment/assault.