University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate

Committee on Equal Opportunity and Inclusion EQ.15.01, Annual Report for 2014-2015

(Final; Information)

The Senate Committee on Equal Opportunity and Inclusion (EQ) is responsible for developing, encouraging, and evaluating the development of equal opportunity and affirmative action programs and guidelines that are intended to increase the numbers, and improve the status of minority groups across campus. The issues considered at length by EQ during the 2014-2015 academic year are below:

• Presentations by Ethnic Studies Departments

In the Fall 2014 at its first meeting, EQ took note of the Salaita controversy and decided to invite unit heads and faculty from the 15 units that expressed opposition to the non-hiring. The responses were disappointing as only 3 individuals visited EQ meetings and one other submitted a written statement. All expressed deep concerns about the impact it may have on hiring and retention in their units.

• Campus Climate Survey

EQ devised a survey of faculty views on diversity climate on campus. At the recommendation of the Senate Executive Committee Chair, the survey was revised with professional consultation. It was distributed in late April 2015. The current and incoming chairs have looked at preliminary results and the Committee will continue with evaluation during Fall 2015 and report to the Senate.

• Community Diversity Issues

EQ continued to examine pertinent issues and what role it may play in fostering closer interaction between UIUC faculty and interested community citizens. EQ will continue studying these issues during the 2015-16 period.

• Exit Interviews

Committee members expressed strong support for organized faculty exit interviews and will press for their permanent re-instatement.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND INCLUSION
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