October 1, 2018

Matthew Gilbert, Co-chair
Kimberly Otchere, Co-chair
Cristina Carpio
Ivanhoe Favid
Ron Bailey
Rolando Romero

Nichole Boyd
Nathan Stephen
Soo Ah Kwon
Leslie Morrow
Christopher Span
Jorge Mena Robles

Domonic Cobb
Andrew Borsch, ex officio
Medra Roberts-Southerlant, ex officio
Gioconda Guerra Pérez, ex officio

Dear Colleagues:

On behalf of Chancellor Robert J. Jones and Provost Andreas C. Cangelaris, the office of the Vice Chancellor for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (OVCDEI) invites you to serve on the 2018 – 2019 Committee on Race, Ethnicity and Intersectionality (former CORE). Matthew Gilbert and Kimberly Otchere have both graciously agreed to co-chair the Committee.

This year, the Committee will continue to monitor the progress of the University’s diversity efforts from recruitment to graduation. The Committee will work closely with Assistant Vice Chancellor for Diversity and Academic Inclusive Excellence, Gioconda Guerra Pérez, to help inform and support the work of the OVCDEI goals in the areas of enhancement and outreach efforts to ensure a diverse student body.

We ask that you focus work on the following efforts:

a. continue participating in the implementation of the U.S. ethnic minority course as a General Education requirement (Implementation and Communication Committees);
b. advise the Office of the Provost on the campus enrollment management diversity efforts;
c. provide guidance to the newly created Illinois Scholars Program, a summer bridge program;
d. evaluate current campus climate issues as they arise during the academic year and recommend actionable steps to the Diversity Leadership Council; and
e. work collaboratively with other diversity committees and stakeholders.

Matthew Gilbert and Kimberly Otchere will be active members in the Diversity Leadership Council, an advisory board to the Chancellor on issues of diversity, equity, inclusion and access. Under the leadership of the Vice Chancellor for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, the Council will be responsible for developing, overseeing and monitoring University-wide efforts to promote cross-campus collaboration and communication, recommend diversity policy and coordinate campus procedures that center diversity as a core institutional and educational value at Illinois.
The Committee is expected to present its work during the annual Diversity Leadership Council Meeting in mid-May. It is imperative that the Committee meets regularly to discuss the efforts stated in the charge letter.

Thank you in advance for your service on this important Committee. Your work is crucial and valued.

Sincerely,

Rusty Barceló, Ph.D.
Visiting Special Assistant to the Chancellor for Diversity

cc: Robert J. Jones, Chancellor
    Andreas C. Cangellaris, Vice Chancellor and Provost
    Wanda Ward, Ph.D., Executive Associate Chancellor for Administration and University Relations