

Campus Year on Mass Incarceration

Planning Meeting #2

July 1, 2015 at 11:00 am.

SURC 271

(Chaired by Dean Stacey Robertson)

Present: Stacy Robertson (CAH), Chris Dinnerson (DHC), Xavier Cavasos (ENG), Mindie Dieu, (ENG, Dean of Students), Kathy Whitcomb (ENG), Mark Auslander (ANTH), Anne Cubilie, (ENG, DHC, Provost), Elizabeth Lee (Office of Institutional Effectiveness) ,Mike Harrod, (SOC), Epiphany Clark (Univ Advancement), Jim Hollar (Educational Foundations), Mollie Allen (Library), Charles Reasons (Law and Justice), Judy Hennesy (SOC, WGS), Valerie Chapman Stockwell (Public Affairs), Matt Altman (PHIL), Jay Ball (Theater)

Correction to previous minutes: Kathy Whitcomb (ENG) was present.

- I. **Title:** There was a vigorous discussion of possible titles for the year of dialogue. The general consensus was that the phrase, "*All Lives Matter*" would risk diluting the critical importance of race, but that the proposed subtitle, "*Mass Incarceration and Racial Justice*" hits the major points. For the time being, that title, "*Mass Incarceration and Racial Justice: A Year of Campus-Community Dialogue*," will appear on the website and other materials. It may be modified in the coming months.

Other phrases discussed included: *Race Matters*, *Black (and Brown) Lives Matter*, *the American Gulag*, *America in Prison*, *America Behind Bars*, *Behind Bars in America*, *All Lives Matter when all Lives are Equal*, *Whose Lives Matter?*, *Mass Incarceration and Racial (In)Justice*, *Mass Incarceration as an Instrument of Racialization*, *In the Shadow of Slavery*.

II. Working groups:

- Women, gender, sexuality (coordinated by Judy Hennesy)
- Arts (initially coordinated by Kathy and Mark; perhaps with others from Art, Music, etc.)
- Historical (coordinated by Stacey Robertson)
- Legal/political (coordinated by Charles Reasons and Matt Altman)
- Business/Economics (Still needs a coordinator)
- Family/Children/Community (needs a coordinator; perhaps Kathleen Barlow)
- Education (Coordinated by Jim Hollar, with Mindie Dieu and perhaps Bobby Cummings)
- Ethnographic Perspectives (coordinated by J. Hope Amason)
- Immigration (coordinated by Mark Auslander)
- Policing and Race (Coordinated by Ann Cubilie and Xavier Cavasos)

Charles Reasons noted the importance of programming around the War on Drugs.

III. Housekeeping and Communication

1. Dean Robertson suggested the steering committee consist of the working group coordinators.
2. Valerie will take the lead in developing an outward facing website, which will contain a calendar, which is important to avoid overlapping or competing activities on the same day. We may also have a social media presence. (Perhaps there is already a student group with a Facebook page on this theme?)
3. A year long Canvas course has been established on the theme of "Mass Incarceration." It will be overseen by Kathy Whitcomb and Mark Auslander, who can subscribe interested faculty and staff as "TAs" and interested students as "students." This will allow us to share PDFs without fair use challenges, share an internal calendar, and hold on line (and archived) discussion threads. Modules on specific topics can be copied and dragged to other Canvas courses by instructors.
4. Dean Robertson's office was informed it is not possible to create a ListServ as such. She will send out an email (with a visible string of addressees) with a plea that users only "reply all" when a message merits broader consideration by the whole group.

IV. Scheduled events thus far:

Tuesday, October 6. *"I can't breathe": Devised theater work on policing and racial profiling* (organized by Jay Ball and Keith Champagne. 6:00 pm. SURC Ballroom.

Tuesday, October 13. Lion Rock Writer's Series. Rene Denfeld, reading from her novel, *The Enchanted*. 7:30 pm, Music room 141.

Tuesday, October 13. Lion Rock Writer's Series. Rene Denfeld, craft lecture, at the Museum of Culture and Environment. 12 noon.

V. Future business:

1. Possible student-faculty research publication (on line) on Mass Incarceration
2. Potential tie-ins for SOURCE 2016
3. Resources, marketing, and web/social media presence need to be coordinated.
4. Budget and fiscal resources still need to be explored.
5. Dean Robertson and Anne Cubilie will inquire if it will be possible for one of them to speak at Convocation about this theme
6. Dean Robertson will circulate a Doodle poll for an August meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Auslander