Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Derek Wilmott (Chair), Oriana Aragon, Jennifer Cabezas, Norberto Davila, Mariela Fernandez, Jerad Green (Associate Member), Rodrigo Martinez-Duarte, Eduardo Nieves (Deputy Chair), Jorge Rodriguez, Shari Rodriguez, Hugo Sanabria, Pablo Unda, and Ronald Wald

Members Absent: Banner Bock (Associate Member), Rico Cabrera, Carlos Garcia (Associate Member), and Kathleen Grant

Guest: Claudia Wong.

Other: Karon Donald (CUCDI Program Manager)

CLA Chair Derek Wilmott called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

1. Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the March 13, 2020 meeting were approved as written.

2. Old Business
   A. Elections of Officers and Commissioners
      • Officers: Rodrigo Martinez-Duarte was elected Vice Chair/Chair Elect and Kathleen Grant was elected Secretary.
      • Commissioners: The vote was unanimous to extend seats on the CLA to Claudia Wong (Undergraduate) and Omar Arredondo (Staff).
   B. Renewing Members – All faculty and staff commissioners submitted for renewal were approved for a second term beginning August of 2020 and ending July of 2023. The term for the student seat will end July of 2021.
      • One (1) Student Representative – Norberto Davila
      • Two (2) Staff Representative – Pablo Unda and Eduardo Nieves (term automatically renewed to July 2023 to complete duties as chair)
      • Six (6) Faculty Representative – Derek Wilmott, Oriana Aragon, Rodrigo Martinez-Duarte, Shari Rodriguez, Hugo Sanabria, and Jorge Rodriguez
   C. Open Staff Seat – Information on the open seat will be disseminated through various communications channels when employees return to campus, especially the Staff Senate.
   D. Strategic Planning for Inclusive Excellence – No report.
   E. CLA Summer Retreat, Eduardo Nieves. Ideally, the retreat would be held prior to June 30th. If funding is not available this fiscal year or social distancing guidelines don’t permit, the plan is to host a retreat in August. Karon Donald will keep the group informed regarding the budget and allowed expenditures. FY20 funds remaining are currently frozen while the University assesses the financial implications from COVID-19. A budget cut should be anticipated for FY21.
3. **New Business**
   A. **Latinos Unidos - COVID Relief Foundation, Derek Wilmott and Claudia Wong.**
      1) LUCU platform to donate $2,000 to support the Hispanic/Latinx population in the Upstate affected by COVID-19.
      2) LUCU is exploring fundraisers to increase donations.
         - Nonprofit Partners – Some of the nonprofits they can potentially partner with are the United Way of Greeneville/Pickens, Tigers Helping Tigers, and Hispanic Alliance. The benefit of partnering with Hispanic Alliance is they already have channels in place to connect resources with the need. They also have a platform to collect donations. The concern is how the funds will be directed or used. Some suggestions were laptops for students and/or food coupons for Hispanic grocery stores with discounts.
         - Marketing – Suggestions were social media (posts, shares, and tags), raffle to get stickers, matching incentive (LUCU will match up until $2000), finger cards/bingo cards, student engagement/involvement (emails that go out to whole campus), Cinco de Mayo campaign (give out margarita recipes to make at home), and explore ways to get other multicultural groups involved.
      3) Commission Input:
         - Oriana suggested checking with the SC Hispanic Chamber to see how they are responding to the pandemic and tornado victims.
         - Salvation Army in Clemson and Seneca is accepting donations.
         - Check with local churches that serve the Hispanic population in the Upstate.
         - Coordinating with other Hispanic organizations in upstate and create a fundraising challenge.
         - Derek asked if CLOC was a part of the relief effort. Claudia has mentioned it to their organization. They indicated they are potentially open to getting involved.
   B. **Día de los Muertos, Rodrigo Martinez-Duarte.**
      1) The celebration is scheduled for Friday, October 30, 2020. Rodrigo invited all commissioners to participate on the planning committee. If interested, email Rodrigo for additional information.
      2) Work continues planning the activities, marketing, and sponsorship packets. Given the sensitivity of the current situation due to COVID-19, marketing will occur after Clemson’s facilities reopen.
      3) Oriana asked if any virtual opportunities are available if in-person gatherings are still limited in October. Suggestions were charge admission and send a packet to everyone to watch a movie together or potentially provide a drive-in/through experience.
      4) Due to budget constraints, alternate funding is being sought. An application for Vending Funds will be submitted. The deadline is May 8th.
   C. **Hispanic Latinx Heritage Month Planning, Jerad Green and Derek Wilmott for Kathleen Grant.**
      1) Derek shared information about some of the events planned for HLHM and noted the commission members helping on the planning committee. Some concerns were expressed regarding restrictions on gatherings that may be in place in September/October and limited funding. The commission would like to coordinate better with promoting Día de los Muertos with the HLHM activities and events.
2) Jerad stated that they are trying to build a structure for HLHM. Currently that involves identifying theme for the month and reflecting on programs from past years. Programs that made an impact and should be continued.

3) Programming for 2020:
   - Dr. Silvia Lorena Mazzula [http://www.silviamazzula.com/](http://www.silviamazzula.com/) – Prospective keynote speaker that Margaret Ptacek with Tiger Advance is working to secure. The proposed date is September 23rd.
   - Salsa at Sunset - Partner with the group that hosts it in Greenville. A potential date is during Family Weekend in the amphitheater.
   - Noche de Gala - Leadership coming from LUCU and CLOC.
   - Grab & Go Event – It was informal last year. There is discussion about hosting again, but with a different name, structure, and method for engagement during the event.
   - Discussion/Workshop/Panel - Café con Leche/Romper el Hielo type of event.
   - Jerad updated the group on the goal for this year (recognizing budget constraints). The goal is to build greater sense of engagement around campus. 
     i. Want to host great events but put ownership back on entities on campus to have robust calendar.
     ii. Want to see events from different pockets on campus and add to calendar -- so that’s what goal is for Día de los Muertos -- to help with marketing and not actually bring it under the HLHM umbrella.
   - Co-chairs are meeting bi-weekly. Brandon is leading right now, Kathleen will book rooms over the summer, and Paula will take lead this fall.

4) Jerad recommended that CLOC and CLA become more involved with each other. He suggests inviting CLOC members to commission meetings and vice versa. This would help the students recognize there are people and resources invested in them. Eduardo agreed with Jerad’s recommendation and wants the CLA to support student groups and work as a team.

5. **Standing Committee Reports:** None.

6. **Next Meeting:** Derek and Eduardo will meet with the Executive Board to discuss the transition and bylaws. If needed, Derek will poll the group to find a meeting day/time in May.

7. **Announcements:** Eduardo extended his appreciation to Derek for Derek’s leadership and service to the CLA and stated he was looking forward to working with returning and new members.

8. **Adjournment:** There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Cabezas and Karon Donald.