**EOPS/CARE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

**Wednesday, May 20, 2015 – A136**

**2:30AM-3:30PM**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT**: Trustee William Withrow, EOPS/CARE/CalWORKs Counselor, Marissa Nakano, EOPS/CARE/CalWORKs Program Manager, Paula Armstead,Adrien Abuyen, EOPS Student, Lorraine Allen, CalWORKs Mental Health and Case Management, Alicia Bridges, CARE Student, Lisa Avant, CARE Student, Michael Goldberg, Manager, Evan Schloss, Mental Health Counselor, Vivian Virkkila, Transfer Director/Counselor, College of Alameda.

**INVITED GUEST:** Cassandra Upshaw – Staff Assistant, COA Welcome Center

**EXCUSED ABSENCE:** Councilmember Desley Brooks, Oakland City Council, Saundra Andrews, Staff Congress member, Barbara Lee, Richard Rose, EOPS Student

**ABSENT:**  Marilyn Lovelace-Grant, Director of Operations, City of Alameda Housing Authority, Jim Franz, City of Alameda, Social Service Human Relations Board, Tom Guarino, Government Affairs and Community Relations, PG&E, Dave Nguyen, Director, Financial Aid, Richard Rose, EOPS Student, Nyeisha DeWitt, Senior Field Representative, Assembly member Rob Bonta, Emmanuel Lopez, Director, EOP, CSU East Bay

**1. Welcome – Toni Cook, Dean, Special Programs & Grants – 5 – Minutes** - Toni Cook, Dean, Special Programs and Grants extended the welcome to all present.

**2. College of Alameda EOPS/CARE/CalWORKs scholarship winners – 5 minutes** – The following EOPS/CARE students were awarded Spring 2015 scholarships:

- Adelya Fuller Harrison – Bernard Osher Foundation Scholarship

- Merch Maina – Bernard Osher Foundation Scholarship

- Erica Hill – COA Faculty and Staff Scholarship

PAAAA Scholarship

Peralta Retirees Organization Scholarship

* Omari Taylor – PAAAA Scholarship

Dean Cook noted that three other EOPS/CARE students were nominated for scholarships.

**3. Review of minutes of October 24, 2014 meeting – 5 Minutes –** The minutes of the October 24, 2014 meeting were reviewed and approved unanimously. (See attached).

**4. Update: A Food Pantry at College of Alameda – Toni Cook/Cassandra Upshaw – Staff**

**Assistant/Welcome Center – 15 minutes –** Dean Cook reminded the board that they discussed the report, **The hunger crisis in America’s universities,** at their October 24, 2014 meeting. The response that followed the discussion was to engage in a collaborative relationship Stacy Hart, Director, Agency Services, with the Alameda County Food Bank to develop a campus-based pantry. Luis Escabar, Director, Student Activities and Campus life agreed to spearhead the effort. EOPS/CARE students Lisa Avant, Adrien Abuyen and Alicia Bridges volunteered to participate, as well as Evan Schloss, COA Mental Health Counselor.

Dean Cook reported that Stacy Hart was no longer at the food bank; and Luis Escabar’s time was such that he did not have the quality time needed to re-establish contact with the new person. However, Cassandra Upshaw, Staff Services (Welcome Center) offered to take continue the project. Dean Cook then introduced Cassandra Upshaw to the committee and asked that she provide the members with a brief summary as to the state of the project.

Cassandra reported that a group of classified professionals, faculty, students and administrators make known their desire to participate and would be having their first meeting Tuesday, May 25, 2015. Cassandra assured Trustee Withrow that he would be kept up to date as to the status of the project. Dean Cook indicated that oversight would probably be provided by the incoming Interim VPSS, Dr. Edward Watson, as he was well known for generating similar projects at Skyline Community College.

**5. Board Update and recommended new members – 15 minutes –** Dean Cook reported that several members of the current Advisory Board had a change in status. Specifically, Saundra Andrews from Congress member Barbara Lee’s office retired March 30, 2015. Marilyn Lovelace-Grant, Director of Operations, City of Alameda Housing Authority, had resigned her position. Nyeisha DeWitt, Senior Field Representative, Assembly member Rob Bonta had resigned, and Emanuel Lopez, Director, EOP, CSU East Bay, was no longer at the university. Given, the number of changes, the group was presented with an opportunity to recommend new board members from venues that would not only strengthen the group, but be of support to the EOPS/CARE program.

Board member Allen and Trustee Withrow asked for the guidelines governing the advisory board as all agreed that they wanted to seize the opportunity to bring some additional structure to the group. Dean Cook promised to send the information within the next 1-2 weeks.

**7. EOPS/CARE/CalWORKs graduation celebration – 5 minutes –** Dean Cook reminded the members that the EOPS/CARE/CalWORKs graduation celebration begin at 4: PM and all were invited to join the administrators in the reception line honoring the graduates. That Trustee Withrow was the Master of Ceremonies. Board member Allen, Abuyen, Bridges and Virkkila committed to attending especially since board member Avant was one of the graduates to be honored.

**8. Setting the meeting dates for 2015 – 2016 – 10 minutes – Friday,** October 23, 2015, was the agreed upon date for the next meeting of the Advisory Board.