Special Edition: Coronavirus Communication 63
June 16, 2020

Good Afternoon:

Today was a stellar day. The sun was gorgeous. The birds were chirping. The temperature was just right. And the Executive Cabinet had a messy, uncomfortable discussion about diversity, equity, and inclusion. It wasn’t a planned discussion. Instead, it was one of those situations where you pull the string and the thread is never-ending. I am proud of the Executive Cabinet because as we meandered into places that were at times difficult, we used our words to do the work that gave us a better understanding of who we are as people. The discussion led us away from the agenda but was necessary in light of the self-examination that is currently happening in our nation. We were a microcosm of the discussions taking place (or should be taking place) as individuals confront their own feelings about biases. The discussion was good and yet at times extremely uneasy, but never divisive. That is the beauty of working with good leaders who are passionate, caring, and want to do the right thing.

Other discussion topics that took place during the Executive Cabinet meeting were preparing for the upcoming June 29 Board of Trustees meeting, June 25 All-Employee College Meeting, and the August 3 Leadership Retreat. The Executive Cabinet was briefed on Zagster, the bike share company that has bicycles on our campus, eliminating service in our community. A new company has requested to sign a contract with the College to continue the service. In light of our fiscal challenges, the Executive Cabinet decided to not have a bike share program on the campus. An update on fundraising campaigns, College Information Center and social media was shared. Several faculty positions were approved for posting. The Executive Cabinet reviewed and discussed the fiscal guidance communicated yesterday and the draft reopening plan.

I spoke with health partners throughout the day to discuss new and existing partnerships.

Looking Forward,

Dr. Beverly

Beverly Walker-Griffiea, Ph.D.
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