



DREAMERS TOGETHER TASKFORCE

Meeting Summary

April 27, 2022

1:00pm to 2:00pm

Attendees: Flavio Media-Martin, Hernan Ramirez, Fiorella Chauca, Lucy Medina, Larry Schallert, Angeli Francois, Ciara Asberry, Amy Foote

Start Time: 1:10 pm

A. Welcome! (Introductions) – **Marilyn**

B. Discussion Items:

1. Update on the transition from the Dreamers Together Taskforce to the Dreamers Together Committee (Collegial Consultation Committee)– **Marilyn**
 - David Andrus will be reviewing the committee procedures document for the new Dreamers Together Committee. Dr. Jasmine Ruys will then review next.
2. Upcoming May Townhall on the screening/viewing of “We are Dreamers” documentary.
 - *Pending panel discussion members*
 - *This event is still in the beginning stages and marketing for this event will go out soon.*
3. Acknowledgement and of Cinco de Mayo (Battle of Puebla) – 5/5/2022
<https://abc11.com/cinco-de-mayo-what-means-battle-of-puebla-mexican-holiday/10585513/>
Discussion: **Hernan/Marilyn**
 - What was the Battle of Puebla?
 - Why do people celebrate Cinco de Mayo?
 - Cinco de Mayo is celebrated more in the US than in Mexico and is not always celebrated in a historically accurate way. The way this event is celebrated permeates to the Latino stereotypes of just partying and drinking. Many people do not understand what this holiday celebrates. This event is not the celebration of the Mexican Independence Day, as that is celebrated in the eve of September 15th, but more so a battle which took place in Puebla, Mexico. More education is needed to inform the public of what this holiday celebrates and there is always a need to continue to education everyone what this holiday represents. There are many people of Mexican descent who find that the way this event is celebrated is offensive and inaccurate.

C. Committee Dialogue-**Hernan & Flavio**

1. Questions to be discussed:

- What are some undocumented student stereotypes you have heard?
 - There are some undocumented students who are still living underground due to parents being undocumented and many feel they cannot access services. There are other students who are undocumented and are living in domestic violence and are being perpetuated by that violence. There are stereotypes of undocumented by the press and by those in politics such as all undocumented people are just bringing in drugs, human trafficking, violence into the country. Many do not understand what some of these undocumented people have experienced in their countries.
 - It is important to continue to talk about these stereotypes so we can dismantle these ideas or opinions many have grown up with.
 - Many undocumented students must face criticism from their own culture. There are some who are not able to experience the culture as many do have the opportunity to experience the culture growing when they are brought to the states at a very young age. Many undocumented students feel that their country is not where they belong. Many students find it difficult to find the support and resources. This is unfair and unfortunate.
 - The roll out during the Obama Administration of the DREAMERS program added to the many stereotypes perpetuated such as the “bad Latino” versus the “good Latino.” This creates the idea of who is deserving and worthy of the support.
- What are some myths you have heard regarding undocumented students?
 - One myth is that undocumented students are all Latinos, assuming students all look a certain way or that they all speak Spanish. Latino’s come in all colors and shapes and there is a large Asian population as well. According to Robert Gonzalez author of the book “Lives in Limbo” talks about how many students come from different part of the world.
- What is some intersectionality and misconceptions about our undocumented students’ populations?
 - A recent webinar hosted by Immigrants Rising, titled “Supporting Black African Undocumented Students in Higher Education” discussed the many anti-undocumented sentiments and with black undocumented students. This group of students must deal with another layered added of stereotypes. Black undocumented students have that added fear of surveillance. There are many undocumented black students who have had negative encounters with campus police. 575,000 Black immigrants where living in the

U.S. The top birth regions are the Caribbean, Africa and Central/South American. 26,000 black undocumented students graduated from high school every year. There is a large percentage of black undocumented students who are approved for DACA.

- The recommendation is for CCC's is to hire competent financial aid workers who are conscious of racial bias, promoting fellowship opportunism, building social connections on campus, centering black undocumented student during decision making, de-stigmatizing the black undocumented student experience. Accountability from educators and administrators. Education students and administrators, addressing criminalization, abolishing campus polices, decrease police presence on campus. Mandatory anti-blackness training. The webinar is available on You Tube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mBk0665YIX4> . We should do a FLEX on this or integrate this into next event. There are many undocumented student organizations. There are some school districts in other States that are not supportive of undocumented students, especially LGBTQ+ undocumented students. They have banned SAFE ZONE stickers. Academic Freedom is being stifled and there are books being banned in school districts in other states.
- The discussion of fear needs to be brought to the forefront. A safe place needs to create that allows people to be afraid. Many believe in these stories, and this is a fear and many people have grown up very segregated areas. Why are we afraid of those terms? How do we connect white culture into these places?
- The next Anti-Racism speaker series based on the book, "Racism without Racist" will be scheduled for this Friday.

D. Upcoming Virtual Learning Opportunities -**Marilyn**

- The Naturalization Process, May 10, 2022, 12-1:00pm. [Register Here](#).
- The Coalition: The People United will Never be Divided, Thursday, April 28, 2022, 2-4:00pm. [Register Here](#).

E. Adjournment: 2:05 pm.