

**LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Office of the Chief Operating Officer  
Office of Human Relations, Diversity and Equity

***COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS, DIVERSITY AND EQUITY***

**Thursday, January 14, 2016**

**LAUSD Central Office  
333 South Beaudry Avenue, Blue Room, Room 122  
Los Angeles, CA 90017**

**Meeting Agenda**

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Minutes December 2015
- IV. Commission Members Items
  - a. Introduce new commissioners
- V. Discussion Items
  - a. Ethnic studies update
  - b. LAUSD Commission sending forth a recommendation to the LAUSD Board to take action on this, to prevent, reduce and respond to the Islamophobia on campuses and in classrooms.
  - c. Connecting with other governmental human relations commissions and agencies through joining CAHRO [www.cahro.org](http://www.cahro.org) and IAOHRA [www.iaohra.org](http://www.iaohra.org)
- VI. Chairperson's Report
- VII. Council Members Announcements
- VIII. Public Comment (2-minutes)
- IX. Review Action Items
- X. Adjournment

**NEXT MEETINGS:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursdays, 6-8 p.m.  
2016: February 11, March 10, April 14, May 12, June 9

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## **PRESENT**

|                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Abelsson, Mark        | selected           |
| Chiasson, Judy        | staff              |
| De La Rosa, Gary      | City HRC           |
| Germaine Watts, Joyce | selected           |
| Jacobs, Lloyd "Bud"   | Superintendent     |
| Kakassy, Alan         | George McKenna (1) |
| LeMay, Beverly        | selected           |
| Reynolds, Dave        | ADL                |
| Rivlin, Shelley,      | Monica Ratliff (6) |
| Wittig, Michele       | Zimmer (4)         |

## **GUESTS/Substitutes**

GusTavo Guerra for Robin Toma  
Karris Wilson for Charles Narcho

## **ABSENT**

|                      |                 |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Kim, Jung            | ALT/AALA        |
| Narcho, Charles      | selected        |
| Slamon, Obie         | Schmereslon (3) |
| Toma, Robin          | LA County HRC   |
| Tarrant, Karen       | at large        |
| Weldon, Floyd        | AALA            |
| Villasenor, Patricia | LA City HRC     |

## **VACANT**

SEIU  
UTLA  
LACOE  
Ref Rodriguez (5)  
Monica Garcia (2)  
Vladovic (7)

Quorum was met. Meeting convened at 6:20 p.m.,  
Commission approved December minutes with non-material corrections.

Abelsson needs to go on inactive status for next semester.  
Will speak with potential candidates for the vacancies.  
The commission can put someone on inactive status after 3 absences.  
Karris offered to replace Charles Narcho on the commission.

Write letter of introduction and welcome to Michele King, new superintendent  
Write letter to representatives of open positions

Ethnic studies update:

Commissioner recommends being mindful of time lines for UC approval for ethnic studies. New course is being written by a woman in Fremont.  
Germaine Watts and Wittig gave multi-point rubric for ethnic studies.

The District has revised its stance on ethnic studies and will be offering it as an elective, not a requirement, but it will meet A-G requirements.

Commissioner Wilson has the materials Julia Bogan created on the Tongva people.

Commissioner Rivlin advocates for inclusion of religious diversity.

Commissioner Reynolds advocates for recognition of immigration.

Inquired as to inclusion of Asians.

Dr. Chau is welcoming of professional development for teachers. Watts recommends that the commission elevates visibility of ethnic studies and facilitates access to the Museum of Tolerance (MOT) program.

The MOT has a grant that enables them to customize content for educators. Yvonne Contreras from LACOE may be a viable partner. Grant includes admission, food, presenters, and materials. The grant covers transportation and accommodations for those who are from outside the area.

The Commission could be a resource for ethnic studies professional development.

Obie Slamon, Michele Wittig, Joyce Germaine Watts, Beverly LeMay, David Reynolds, Allan Kakassy and Gary de la Rosa will ask to meet with Chau to present professional development opportunities.

Letter was sent to the board asking for a letter on Islamophobia. Wittig has been in touch with Board Member Zimmer on the sponsorship.

Rivlin did not get a response from BM Ratliff's office.

BM McKenna will consider co-sponsoring

Upcoming from ADL being an Ally to Muslim

Judy is compiling materials and resources on Muslims, Islam, and religious based extremism and violence. Considering packaging it as a Peace Movement. JC is looking at ADL, Teaching Tolerance, MPAC, MPV, etc.

Kakassy and Jacobs talked about Hands Across the Campus and other activities for student engagement.

Toma recommended connecting with other human relations agencies and California Associations of Human Relations Organizations and IAOHRA. CAHRO is centered out of Robin Toma's office and partner with Dept of Justice and the city Human Relations.

#### Tasks:

Gary will write thank you notes, letters of introductions, and solicit candidates to fill vacancies.

Judy send information on the UCLA summer course, Celebration of Life, ADL Lesson Plan on Muslim Myths and Facts

#### Announcements:

UCLA has a 5-day summer course for teachers on the Japanese internment experience.

Muslims Progressive Values has a Celebration of Life for religious leaders on January 24, 2016.

#### Handouts:

Agenda

December minutes

ADL Myths & Facts about Muslim People and Islam

ADL Professional Development for California Educators

January 14, 2016

Ethnic Studies Rubric  
Draft proposal for Spring conference at Museum of Tolerance  
New article on Muslim school holidays  
Rubric on Ethnic Studies

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Meeting adjourned 8:25 p.m.

Minutes approved at February 11, 2016 meeting

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**M e e t i n g A g e n d a**

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Minutes January 2016
- IV. Commission Members Items
  - a. Discuss open positions, specifically UTLA and Native American
  - b. Kakassy – Student booklet
  - c. Ethnic studies
- V. Discussion Items
- VI. Chairperson's Report
- VII. Council Members Announcements
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