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Subject: College-wide Book Reading

Colleagues,

I am excited to take this opportunity to update you on our college-wide book reading. We invited nominations from the college community for books that we might read together to enable us to grow and learn together in support of our mission, commitment towards a racially just campus, and expanding our understanding of the cultures and histories of our community. We received many different submissions, and it wasn't easy to choose one book. So, we have selected three books in a line-up.

Several areas of the college were invited to join me in the deliberations: human resources, student equity, Professional Development Program (PDP), and Diversity/Equity/Cultural Competence (DEqCC). I particularly want to thank Dr. Wendy Stewart, Kristina Londy, Denise Stephenson, and Charlie Ng for their efforts.

Below are the books we selected for the upcoming year as the campus-wide book reads, and we are so excited to invite you to join us in this learning journey!

- Spring 2022: "From Equity Talk to Equity Walk: Expanding Practitioner Knowledge for Racial Justice in Higher Education" by Tia Brown McNair, Estela Mara Bensimon, and Lindsey Malcom-Piqueux

Provides practical strategies for incorporating equity into outcomes and would be an excellent fit for the college's move from discussion and engagement to embedding equity in results.

- Summer 2022: "A Dream Called Home" by Reyna Grande

This memoir documents Grande's pursuit to become the first in her family to earn a college degree and find her place and a home in her adoptive country.

- Fall 2022: "Becoming Hispanic-Serving Institutions" by Gina Ann Garcia

Explores how institutions are serving Latinx students, through both traditional and innovative approaches.

- Spring 2023: Varied book selections will focus on specific college roles.

We will be ordering books for our college community and working with our library to make e-books available. Based on your feedback, we will balance bringing authors to frame their work and provide insights as well as having locally facilitated discussion groups.

Stay tuned for more details as we aim to get the first book to you before winter break.

Looking forward to learning with you and from you,

Sunny

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