

## Campus Climate

Considering the current campus climate, many students, staff, and faculty have been hosting events to address various concerns. Future events include the *Deep Dives: Dialogues Series*. As described by the Social Justice Initiatives Center, *Deep Dives* allows for "students, faculty, staff and external partners come together and take new intellectual, creative, and/or artistic pathways that lead to transformative new innovations, new expressions, and new questions." In other words, *Deep Dives* is "an opportunity for authentic connections to occur while having certain topics addressed related to issues impacting our campus community." Anyone interested in learning more can email Onar Primitivo at [oprimitivo@ucmerced.edu](mailto:oprimitivo@ucmerced.edu). Additional resources and channels of support include both the Dean of Students Office, as well as the Office of Campus Climate. Please email AVC/DOS Dr. Grady ([jgrady2@ucmerced.edu](mailto:jgrady2@ucmerced.edu)) or Campus Climate Director De Acker ([dacker@ucmerced.edu](mailto:dacker@ucmerced.edu)) with comments, questions, or concerns.

## Restorative Justice

In addition to the *Deep Dives*, another framework for addressing campus concerns is being formulated by the DOS Office. In March, I was able to attend the NASPA Restorative Justice Training at UC Berkeley to gain an understanding of restorative justice principles, strong facilitation skills, and practical information about program implementation. Here at UC Merced, I plan to host a workshop before the end of Spring 2018 about RJ. Details to be posted on the DOS website.

## Interim Policy

On March 19th, the Office of Campus Climate and Compliance hosted a town hall for the campus community to discuss and inquire about *The Interim Policy on Expressive Activities and Assembly*. The room was composed of a diverse group of students, staff, and faculty interested in exploring this policy. The *Interim Policy on Expressive Activities and Assembly* can be found here at [policies.ucmerced.edu](http://policies.ucmerced.edu), and comments can be submitted to [policy@ucmerced.edu](mailto:policy@ucmerced.edu) by **April 30th**.

## Cultural Spaces Update

During the month of March, The Dean of Students Office, in collaboration with the Social Justice Initiatives Center, launched an online survey (still live) to collect paramount feedback for *Crucial Conversations*. The Intercultural Hub, in addition to the Graduate Cultural Resource Center, have been consulting the DOS Office in specific areas of the process. The next phase of *Crucial Conversations* consists of the following:

- We highly encourage all students, staff, and faculty to fill out the survey with their valuable insight by **April 30th**: [ucmerced.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_3a2RPR5AzBG1eMl](http://ucmerced.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3a2RPR5AzBG1eMl)
- The final town hall will be held on **April 17th** from **5:30-7:30pm** in **COB 105**. Here, we will share results from the collection of thoughts and feedback from the campus community.

It is important to keep in mind that the goal of *Crucial Conversations* is to submit a fully vetted proposal to the Vice Chancellor and Chancellor by May 1st, to establish *additional* cultural spaces at UC Merced. Any input, feedback, and/or participation is very appreciated.