

HUMAN RELATIONS COUNCIL MEETING
19 November 2008 – 1:00 p.m. – Chancellor’s Suite
MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT	Simone James Alexander	Nicole Fopeano	Pat Linfante	Erwin Ponder	
	Mary Alexander	Dennis Garbini	Charee Marquez	Rosario Reyes	
	Susan Basso	Tracy Gottlieb	Robert Martin	Christopher Sharrett	
	Lori Brown	Tara Hart	Shirley Matthews	Monsignor Robert Sheeran	
	Robert Burke	Yinan He (<i>sitting in for Martin Edwards</i>)	Michael McLaughlin	Matthew Tominey	
	Monsignor James Cafone	Ingrid Hill	King Mott	Elaine Walker, <i>Co-Chair</i>	
	Cosmo Cirillo	Father Paul Holmes	Mary Mueller	Rob Weitz	
	Mitch D’Rosario (<i>sitting in for Morella Mirabal</i>)	Maura Kenny	Milagros Ortiz	Father Anthony Ziccardi, <i>Co-Chair</i>	
	Gabriel Esteban	Catherine Kiernan	Joan Osthues		
	GUESTS	Chloe Morales, <i>Student</i>	Yessenia Sanchez, <i>Student</i>	Ivan Vilela, <i>Student</i>	
EXCUSED	Kristal Batanjany	Therese Chidiac	Joseph Quinlan	Maria Soares	Kevaan Walton
	Sister Paula Buley	Marie Foley	Elizabeth Rathbun	Father James Spera	Laura A. Wankel
	Julieta Carraballo	Lauren Jackson	John Saccoman	Karen Van Norman	Thomas White
	Father Joseph Chapel	Michael Kurlander	Joseph Sandman		

TOPIC	DISCUSSION / ACTION / PROPOSAL	RESPONSIBILITY / TIME FRAME
CALL TO ORDER	Dr. Walker called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m.	
OPENING PRAYER	Father Holmes offered the opening prayer.	
OPENING REMARKS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Walker welcomed the returning and new members of the Council to the first meeting of this academic year. • Father Ziccardi also welcomed everyone and stated that one fifth of the Council’s membership changes each year. He asked that each new member stand up and introduce themselves. A membership list and a brochure explaining the purpose of the Council and descriptions of the six committees were distributed to the Council. Father Ziccardi explained that this is one of the few Presidential councils. It serves as an environment where all can flourish to foster better relations among all constituencies. The Council works as an advisory to the President and to sensitize members so that they can bring back matters to their places of work. Members of this Council are not elected, but rather appointed by virtue of their positions as leaders of the University. The President chooses the chairs of each committee. Committee assignments will be announced shortly. Father Ziccardi asked each committee to meet before Christmas and to let him or Dr. Walker know the outcome of each committee meeting. Each committee is to discuss and come up with at least one tangible goal for this academic year. 	
ICE BREAKER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members were asked, if money were no object, what career would you choose? Some of the responses were: would 	

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<p>AND PRESENTATION: WORK OF THE PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE <i>Ms. CHAREE MARQUEZ Ms. MILAGROS ORTIZ Ms. LOYDES VAZQUEZ</i></p>	<p>not change career, run an opera company, president of the US, stay at home mom, Cardinal, Broadway dancer, actress and traveler. This gave members an idea of the different passions that people have.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A PowerPoint presentation was given (attached). The Programming Committee meets weekly throughout the academic year. The Committee is inclusive of everyone on campus and encourages participation. It offers conferences, workshops and community service opportunities. There are different themes for each month as well as a yearly theme. The Committee provides programming support for students, faculty and administrator and collaborates and co-sponsors their events. A sample of a poster created by the Committee was shown. A Mighty Morphin YouTube video featuring the Power Rangers was shown. This led to the rest of the presentation. Each Power Ranger of a different color represented an area of the Committee including funding, diversity, programming opportunities, discussion of social issues, advertising and the collaboration of students and administrators working together. All these areas, or “allies” come together to support each other to form one large Mighty Morphin robot. The Council was shown a list of the many organizations that are part of the HRPC. The Committee sometimes faces challenges such as poor attendance or miscommunication problems. In response to a question by a Council member, Ms. Marquez stated that the attendance of the programs vary with new as well as regular participants. Council members were encouraged to attend the weekly meetings held every Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. in Jubilee Hall, room 132. 	
<p>HRC WEBSITE – STATUS REPORT <i>FATHER ZICCARDI</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Father Ziccardi stated that about 1 ½ year ago, a committee was formed to help create a website for this Council. It has progressed slowly, but Father Ziccardi was able to show the skeletal site produced thus far. He navigated through the website and demonstrated some of the features. Eventually, every committee will be listed and each will have their own information and resources. The Website Committee will work to improve it. Some of the resources can be used by the University community to sensitize programs being used. Father Ziccardi opened up the floor to questions or suggestions. Monsignor Sheeran suggested that the purpose and what the Council stands for should be clear and that the site be easily accessed. Another member suggested listing information from the presentations and events under the “Fast Facts” section. Posting the history of the Council, which has been in existence for over 22 years, was also suggested. The HRPC has had a website for some time. It will be linked to this new website. Father Ziccardi stated that he will need the input of the Council throughout this process. 	
<p>NEW BUSINESS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monsignor Sheeran asked the Council to contact Father Ziccardi or Dr. Walker to give suggestions on any topics that they would like discussed at the meetings. • Dr. Mott, on behalf of the Faculty Senate, suggested bringing in speakers on social movements or controversial issues to spark conversations. Father Ziccardi asked Dr. Mott to submit what the Faculty Senate is proposing. • A couple of Council members asked on the progress of the Internationalization initiative and commented on the need to help support international students and those interested in studying abroad. Father Ziccardi stated that the Office of International programs together with Dr. Jurgen Heinrichs, chair of the Internationalization Lab, may want to give a presentation on the challenges and needs of the international students and the progress made. 	
<p>CLOSING PRAYER</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monsignor Cafone offered the closing prayer. 	

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ADJOURNMENT	The meeting was adjourned at 1:58 p.m.	

*Respectfully submitted,
Father Anthony Ziccardi, Co-Chair, Human Relations Council*

AZ:mf