June 11, 2019

Oscar Dubón, Jr., co-chair, Vice Chancellor for Equity & Inclusion
Kris Gutiérrez, co-chair, Carol Liu Chair, and Professor, Graduate School of Education
Nick Araujo, Undergraduate student, Associated Student University of California
Jessica Arevalo-Hillen, Major Gifts Officer, University Development and Alumni Relations
Adrian Diaz, Director, State Government Relations
Andrew Eppig, Institutional Researcher—Equity & Inclusion
Adrian Frias, Undergraduate student, Latinx Caucus
Lupe Gallegos-Diaz, Director, Chicanax Latinx Student Development—Equity & Inclusion
Lisa García Bedolla, Professor, Graduate School of Education, and Director, Institute of Governmental Studies
Pablo Gonzalez, Lecturer, Chicano/Latino Studies, Department of Ethnic Studies
Alein Y. Haro, Graduate Student, Graduate Assembly
Diana Harvey, Associate Vice Chancellor, Communications and Public Affairs
Marsha Jaeger, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Centers for Educational Partnerships—Equity & Inclusion
Rosemary Kim, Chief of Staff, Finance
Silvia Marquez, Associate Director Financial Aid and Scholarships
Adam Steve Martinez, Graduate Student, Graduate Students de la Raza
Jorge Martinez, Operations Manager, Cal 1 Card, and Alianza
Fabrizio Mejia, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Centers for Educational Equity & Excellence—Equity & Inclusion
G. Christina Mora, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology
Olufemi “Femi” Ogundele, Assistant Vice Chancellor and Director of Undergraduate Admissions
Oliver O’Reilly, Vice Chair, Berkeley Division of the Academic Senate, and Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering
Linda Rugg, Associate Vice Chancellor, Research
Rick Russo, Dean, Summer Sessions, Study Abroad, and Lifelong Learning; and Associate Vice Chancellor, Undergraduate Education
Mia Settles-Tidwell, Assistant Vice Chancellor and Chief of Staff—Equity & Inclusion
Chris Stanich, Associate Vice Chancellor, Financial Planning & Analysis, Finance
Stephen Sutton, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs
Christopher Yetter, Senior Advisor to the Executive Vice Chancellor & Provost

Dear Colleagues:

I write to invite you to serve on a task force to help UC Berkeley become a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) by 2027. This is indeed one of our boldest goals in our strategic plan—for at least 25 percent of enrolled undergraduate students to be Chicana/Latinx and for the university to be a preferred destination for Pell-eligible students. Recruiting a diverse student body is only the beginning. We must assure that every student thrives at Berkeley and finds belonging in all dimensions of our excellence.

I have asked Oscar Dubón, Jr., Vice Chancellor for Equity & Inclusion, and Kris Gutiérrez, Carol Liu Chair and Professor, Graduate School of Education, to co-chair the Task Force, and they have graciously agreed to do so.
The work of the Task Force will focus on the development of goals toward becoming an HSI, as well as related immediate, short and long-term goals; the creation of an actionable, campus-wide engagement and socialization plan; and recommendations for investments in infrastructure, curriculum, research, and campus culture toward serving the Chicanx/Latinx community, as well as other underrepresented, underserved and/or invisibilized communities. In addition, the Task Force will review HSI application processes and timelines, eligibility criteria; collect relevant institutional data; and develop a communications plan (e.g., website, materials, social media, community engagement, etc.).

Through its recommendations, the task force will provide the campus a blueprint for becoming an HSI. I request that the task force deliver recommendations to me by December 13, 2019.

Thank you for your commitment to this important institutional transformation that will move our campus toward better serving California and society at large in the 21st century.

Sincerely,

Carol Christ