

University Senate Ad Hoc Task Force on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

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Dear President Hamilton and the campus community,

On behalf of the Senate Task Force on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, we want to heartily thank and congratulate President Hamilton on the timely and meaningful steps that he communicated to the Task Force on March 30, 2016. In his letter, President Hamilton announced that he would make a set of immediate actions to advance equity, diversity, and inclusion at NYU, based on his consultation with Task Force members and other members of the NYU community. These steps include:

- Issuing a statement of principles on diversity, inclusion, and equity at NYU;
- creating a senior leadership role for diversity, inclusion, and equity;
- hiring a leader for diversity, inclusion, and equity for the global network university;
- launching a hotline for concerns from the members of the campus community;
- support for a vigorous diversity, inclusion, and equity assessment;

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increased support for the Center for Multicultural Education and Programming (CMEP) expansion, as well as for the work of Vice Provost Cybele Raver to recruit talented post-doctoral fellows to NYU and Vice Provost Ulrich Baer to recruit and advance faculty from under-represented groups.

These are far-reaching and proactive actions. We identify fully with President Hamilton's driving desire for immediate, positive change. In fact, we are including many of these items as initial recommendations in our preliminary report to the University Senate, which is due on April 28, 2016.

The Task Force applauds President Hamilton on these actions, and looks forward to working with and advising him on implementation in the coming weeks and months.

Sincerely,

Charlton McIlwain and Lynn Videka

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