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College of Arts and Sciences Diversity Committee Final Report for Academic Year 2014-2015

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Submitted by

Kevin A. Yelvington

Committee Chair

Department of Anthropology

For academic year 2014-2015, the College of Arts and Sciences Diversity Committee consisted of the following members:

Judith Bryant, professor, Department of Psychology

Stephanie Hill, staff, College of Arts and Sciences

David Howard, undergraduate student, Department of Psychology

Gary Lemons, professor, Department of English

2. The committee became aware of other similar committees in the College of Education, College of the Arts, and elsewhere. In order to find out about the resources on campus devoted to diversity and related activities, it invited Dr. Aziz Tablani, the director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA), to speak to us about his office's programs, Dr. José Hernández, the director of the Diversity, Inclusion and Equal Opportunity Office (DIEO), to speak to us about his office's purview and responsibilities, and Bernard Batson, the Director of Diversity Programs in the College of Engineering, to inform us of the activities of his office. The committee explored areas of cooperation with these campus units.

3. The chair and members of the committee attended a number of events put on by the OMA and DIEO throughout the year, such as the USF 11th Annual LGBT Community Gala Event, the Diversity Summit, and various lectures in the DIEO office's Diversity Lecture Series, and encouraged their students to attend as well. The signature event organized by the committee was the showing of the 2013 film *Living Thinkers: An Autobiography of Black Women in the Ivory Tower*, directed by Roxana Walker-Canton who appeared at the screening held on February 25, 2015, in the TECO Room of the College of Education. This event was jointly planned with the College of Education's Diversity Committee, with sponsorship from the DIEO office, the College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Education, the Institute on Black Life, the Humanities Institute, the Department of Sociology, the Department of Anthropology, and the Department of Women's and Gender Studies. The event exceeded our expectations. There was a standing room-only crowd in the TECO Room, and the event lasted an hour longer than the planned time because of the generation of discussion and debate.

