TO:                  President Morishita
FROM:                The Academic Senate
SUBJECT:             Interpretation of the University Constitution to include the chair of FDEC on
                     the Academic Senate

ACTION REQUESTED:
That Article V, Section 2 K be interpreted as including the chairperson of the Faculty Diversity
and Equity Committee until the University Faculty speaks on the matter through a vote.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:
The FDEC is an Ad Hoc committee of the Senate. Last year’s proposal to amend the Bylaws to
make the committee a standing committee of the Senate failed for lack of sufficient voters. The
chairs of standing committees are members of the Senate. While chairs of Ad Hoc committees
are not accorded membership by the constitution, in the case of the FDEC, the chair has in
practice attended and been accorded a vote. The motion requested that the Senate interpret the
Constitution to allow for the past practice to continue until the University Faculty speak to the
standing of the FDEC in a vote.