Islamophobia Working Group Friday, December 20, 2017, 4-5:30pm

2001 LSA

MISSION: Given the recent increase in anti-Arab and anti-Muslim sentiment internationally, the purpose of this group of faculty, staff, and students is to strategize on how to create a safe and inclusive campus environment for Arab, Muslim, and MENA students and those who are impacted by anti-Arab and anti-Muslim sentiments.

AGENDA

1. Introductions

2. Updates and Announcements

- Update from DPSS (Evelyn Alsultany)
    - DPSS protest information link
    - New security for the reflection spaces
        - Admin has been working on creating swipe card access
    - DPSS is a resource and we should reach out when necessary
- Al-Kitaab (Ibtihal Makki and Ryan Gillcrist)
    - Panel and Presentation at MESA on AlKitaab research
    - Task Force
        - Discussed future steps of AlKitaab
            - Reach out to others/students who are involved in Arabic programs in the U.S
- MENA Box (Jad Elharake and Nadine Jawad)
    - #WeExist campaign
    - Concerns from admin
        - will the community be targeted by a MENA box?
        - Common App concerns
        - Next meeting potentially in January
- Reflection Rooms (Marjorie Horton)
    - Reflection Room Security Updates -- Estimated Total Card Reader Cost: $86000
        - Tier 1
            - Michigan Union, Michigan League, Mason Hall, Chemistry Building
    - North Quad Reflection Room Update
        - Open to all students
- Other announcements?

3. Discussions

- Special Guest, Candace Dorsey, Empowerment Self Defense Program, DPSS
    - Idea is to empower folks and give information about safety
        - Stalking, sexual assault, domestic violence, cell phone safety
    - Works with Community Engagement and Special Victims Unit from DPSS, Dean of Students Office
    - Email: cdors@umich.edu
    - Program is also open to faculty, staff, and anyone from the community
- MSA Survey Results (Riyah Basha)
    - Over 50 responses
    - Asked questions about institutional resources
    - Academic, cultural support, space support were among concerns brought up by Muslim students.
    - More reflection rooms, scholarship support, more halal food options, a religious coordinator were requested among most respondents
- IWG as a Student Organization (Rob Abid and Abby Chien)
- MLK Symposium Event (Haleemah Aqel)
- Interfaith Element (Daniel Hummel)
- Richard Spencer's Visit (Evelyn Alsultany)