Meeting Minutes - September, 14th 2018

AGENDA

1. **Introductions**
    - 46 people
2. **Context and history of the IWG and the IWG Video**
    - Updates:
        - Al-Kitaab
        - Reflection Rooms
        - MENA box
        - How to articulate who IWG is to the broader public (not just Arab X Muslim focused)
3. **Announcements**
    - Islamic Studies: Destination Detroit Event
    - AMAS: Black as Bean Pie - September, 25th
    - Bayan Founas: Diary of Daughter in Diaspora Poetry Reading
    - LatinX Heritage Month
    - MESA: Arab Heritage Month Student Coordinator Paid Position
    - Center for Education of Women Plus: Hold events, provide counseling specifically for women (*but also provide support/counseling for men as well)
        - October 10th Event: CW+ inspire event. On DEI Summit events. Speaker coming in & faculty talks.
        - African Women Film Festival
4. **Professional Arabs @ Michigan, PAM (Jad Elharake and Nadia Bazzy)**
    - Create an Arab Staff Group
    - Group that supports Arab staff members (keeps them updated on events, opportunities, etc.)
    - Still in the ideas phase: just staff? Or staff and faculty? Change the name from PAM?
    - Only 14 staff members have been identified
5. **The Coalition, a new faculty and staff group (Charles Yun and Janice Reuben)**
    - ABPFAS, APID/A, PLUMA, WCTF
    - Coalition created to coordinate all of these groups together - reaching out to different groups that consist of staff/faculty of marginalized communities to promote shared goals through activism, career advancement, and awareness
    - October 8th: 4:30 - 6:00
        - Staff, Faculty, Students of Color meet & greet
    - coalition@umich.edu - mailing list to be representative of core groups of organizations on campus
6. **SALAM - Arab Student Orientation (Arwa Gayar, Nour Eidy, Abby Chien)**
    - ASA launched Arab Orientation program
    - Successful Arab Leaders At Michigan
    - 2 day program for incoming freshman - developing first year mentorship program

        - Want to reach out to faculty, staff, and graduate students for mentorship program
    - Able to secure permanent funding for SALAM
7. **MENA Box (Jad Elharake and Evelyn Alsultany)**
    - Focus on undergraduate surveys (DEI surveys have followed as well)
    - Because the census doesn't have a box several forms at U-M cannot have a box
    - U-M has always been collecting information on MENA students (but they did not know they were)
    - Common Application & Coalition App (two apps for undergraduate students)
        - Under "White" there is a MENA category
    - Has been at least 3 years since this is happening
    - Office of Enrollment Management did not have the MENA identity applications stored - the MENA (not under white) information has not been cross referenced so we do not know how many MENA students there are on campus now
    - How can we change MENA to not be under white & also count faculty and staff as well
    - Will MENA folks be considered an **Underrepresented Minority**?
        - Depends on the context
8. **Reflection rooms update (Ali Aboubih)**
    - BSB building - reflection room?
    - Swipe access has been installed for reflection rooms
9. **Al Kitaab update (Ibtihal Makki)**
    - Committee meets about once a month - idea is to supplement the book
10. **New York Times reporter, Nathan Thrall, writing on BDS (Evelyn Alsultany)**
    - Nathan Thrall email: wanting to get in touch with active students regarding BDS (the history of the movement, origin, aims). October 8th - 12th: Coming to Michigan and wants to talk to students
    - Funders of Canary Mission are being exposed - Palestinian legal are trying to bring down the organization
    - Article in New York Times: New assistant secretary for Civil Rights - trying to name all acts that criticize Israel as anti-semitic
        - Law School is planning on having a talk around this issue and how to approach this regarding activism on campus
11. **CMENAS Title VI funding announcement and future projects (Samer Ali & Jessica Riggs)**
12. **Discussion of mission of IWG**