What follows is a report on the first year's progress with respect to our May 2002 MOA.

Actions agreed upon for the 2002-03 academic year:

1. *Develop a review process for the director.* This task was assigned to the dean's office.

2. *Develop procedures regarding Executive Committee members.* After discussion with the dean and with the Executive Committee, we decided, based on the recommendation of both, not to limit the term of office, but rather to ask members at the end of each academic year whether they were willing to commit for another year. This provides them with an exist strategy, if their commitments or priorities have shifted. In addition, we added another member from the English Department, in recognition of the fact that Caryn Chaden is more of a representative of the dean's office than the department, and we added one member from outside the college, Ann Stanford from SNL.

3. *Enhance assessment of events.* For this year, we focused event assessment enhancement on the Critical Race Theory Seminar. In order to ensure the seminar proceeded as planned, while encouraging adjustments to suit participants' needs, an interim-seminar evaluation (April 2002-October 2002) and a final seminar evaluation (February 2003) were administered. The results of the interim evaluation helped to shape discussions on the readings for the second half of the seminar and final evaluations targeted how each participant's knowledge of critical race theory had been developed or enriched, as well as their plans for implementing critical race theory in their research or teaching. Evaluations detail the future plans faculty will undertake to reflect their experience of taking critical race theory to their classrooms. Revised syllabi, works-in-progress, and scholarly articles or essays, for example, will continue to be added to the website at [www.webmedia.depaul.edu/criticalrace](http://www.webmedia.depaul.edu/criticalrace) to serve as resources for educators and scholars seeking information on critical race theory.

4. *Encourage support from other colleges for Fellows Program.* Director was to meet with deans of the following colleges to encourage fellowship applications: Education, Music Law, SNL and Theatre. Relationship with SNL dean is strong and the program again received and supported a fellowship application from SNL. Theatre School submitted its first fellowship application, which was supported. Director contacted dean of Law by phone to talk about the program, but needs to schedule meetings with that dean and the deans of Education and Music (now the only two schools on this list whose faculty have never submitted applications). With the addition of Theatre, progress is being made here, but because of dean turnover, it is crucial to continue advocating on behalf of the fellowship program to this group of deans.

5. *Apply for grants.* The Center submitted a major application to NEH this year for their Challenge Grant program. This grant, if funded, would provide $500,000 for
the development of an endowment for the center, contingent on the securing of a $2,000,000 match. The creation of this application has already strengthened relationships with external partners, facilitated long-range planning, and secured the assistance of development in putting in place the match. The director is now working closely with Joan Claffey from development to secure the match. In addition, the NEH Summer Seminar for High School Teachers, led by Eric Selinger, opens on June 29. We are working with Selinger closely to ensure the success of this seminar, which he intends to resubmit next spring.

6. Create an advisory board. The director met with one individual who the dean thought might be a good person to lead an Advisory Board. After conversation with her and with the dean, we decided to wait until the Challenge Grant proposal had taken shape to evaluate where we should be with respect to an Advisory Board. We are still in the process of discernment on this issue, but if the grant is funded, it gives some clear direction for either an Advisory Board or a group of individuals who will work with us to spearhead the campaign.

Issues for continued conversation

1. External funding for programming vs. operational expenses. This conversation continues. If the grant is funded, the endowment will support one additional full-time position, which will be crucial in supporting the increased programming.
2. Institutional matching funds. We continue to be in conversation about developing or extending additional program that will draw on these funds.
3. Staffing model. The dean agreed to continue working with HR to try to achieve the Assistant Director’s title change. We do not have any information on the progress of these efforts.

This concludes our Progress Report.

Respectfully submitted,
Jacqueline Taylor, Ph.D.
Director
Professor of Communication