I. Board Report—May 2019

II. Diversity Committee

III. Members: Joy Doan (2015) Chair; Mallory Sajewski (ex officio, Chair Membership Committee); Misti Shaw (2017); Winston Barham (2018); Callie Holmes (2018); Terra Merkey (2018); Sara Outier (2018); Sylvia Yang (2018); Nurhak Tuncer (2019); Zachary Tumlin (2019).
   a. Rotating Committee Members: Randye L. Jones (2015); Vincent H. Pelote (2015); Lisa Shiota (2015); Patrick Sifuentes (2015); Wendy A. Sistrunk (2015); Sara K. Nodine (ex officio, Officer, Publicity & Outreach).

IV. Board Action Required
   a. At the 2019 Diversity Committee business meeting (February 24), the membership discussed the establishment of an Equity and Inclusion Subcommittee (hereafter EI). We recognize the need for the Diversity Committee’s current charge. However, this is not inclusive of the work and efforts with which Our group currently or will continue to engage in. Moreover, we recognize the intersectionality of these efforts (diversity, equity, inclusion), and that a heightened platform for EI efforts is continuing to be asked for by MLA’s membership. Therefore, We ask the Board to support the establishment of the EI Subcommittee.
      i. It is hoped that this subcommittee would act similar to CMC, in that this group would liaise with the Diversity Committee, but would act as their own committee (e.g., handbook, committee chair).

V. Summary of Activities
   a. MLA 2019 (St. Louis, MO)—
      i. During the Committee’s business meeting (February 24), the membership had a lot of positive feedback on the St. Louis Annual Meeting. It was felt that the diversity themed conference was a success.
      ii. The Committee’s plenary, “Recruiting and Retaining a Diverse Workforce—Considerations for MLA,” moderated by committee member Sara Outhier, was well received.
   b. “Diversity Spotlight” in MLA Newsletter
      i. The Diversity Scholarship recipient, Ellen Ogihara, contributed a “Diversity Spotlight” interview highlighting her experience and professional aspirations in MLA Newsletter No. 201.