We’re better than THAT working group
Meeting March 16, 2016

Attendees: Bethany Anguiano, Norman Burnett, Jon Burdick, Meredith Crenca, Jessica Guzman-Rea, James Mandelaro, Anthony Plonczynski, Beth Olivares, Collette Kettles, Justin Delinois, Alyssa Shoup

Not attending this meeting: Samantha Andrew, Matt Burns, Grant Dever, Yasmin Elgoharry, Itzel Figueroa, Delvin Moody, Alyssa Shoup, Bridgette Thomas, George VanderZwaag, Christopher Vasquezdorn, Elmer Rodriguez, Lori Packer

Responses to posters with blurred YikYak posts:

- Some concerns that the words in the Yak are readable
- Some concerns that the words in the Yak are not readable
- Mostly positive feedback

March 21st: International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination:

- T-shirts were ordered by 22 departments/units in the College, in addition to 1,000 for ESM and ASE students.
- These shirts and stickers will be available in the Kearns Center offices Friday afternoon; communication to all who ordered will be sent with details on Monday’s events.
- In addition to t-shirts, we will provide postcards with the logo on one side and an abbreviated mission statement on the reverse.
- Friday, March 18th, at 4:00PM, the committee is asked to meet at the statue of George Eastman wearing your shirts. We will cover George with printed Yaks and put a shirt on him, and take photos of the statue and the committee. These photos will be used for the UR’s homepage takeover on March 21st.
- March 21st, in Hirst Lounge, Wilson Commons, from 11-2 we will be giving out t-shirts and providing ways for students to take photos and sign a large version of the poster. We ask that all committee members take time to be at this event, and encourage members of your groups and departments to do so as well.
- Also on the 21st, there will be an opportunity for students to write ideas on how to combat racism and hate speech in the Writing, Speaking and Argument Program, in the Kearns Center and in Wilson Commons, as well potentially as other places.
- Jim Mandelaro is writing up a story for internal and possibly external distribution.

Video contest

- Entries are due on Friday at midnight. We will send information on how to view to the group soon.

Resources for website

- By Friday at noon, committee member are asked to send Norm links to anti-racism resources or literature with which you are familiar, so that we can post on our website, as a first step in
providing educational resources for students and others. These will be posted to the better-than-that site by Monday.

Recommendations and on-going work
Norm and Beth are drafting a document for Dean Feldman and the Race and Diversity Commission that will list all of the main recommendations that the group has discussed throughout the past months. We will have this to the group no later than next Wednesday’s meeting. We ask that you consider these thoughtfully and add or make comments, so that we are prepared to have a final document to Dean Feldman by April 6th.

Other topics/ideas:

- Include the bias–related Incident report mechanism in the next poster; “We’re better than THAT” and this reporting system are linked, and the campaign should encourage students and other community members to report bias when they see or experience it.
- Jon indicates that Advancement is bringing a group of alumni leaders to campus April 8-9; we should be sure to make them all aware of this campaign as well.
- The Diversity Conference is April 8th. The campaign should be visible there.

Next meeting: Wednesday March 23rd.

Interim dates:
Friday, March 18th, 4:00 PM at George Eastman statue; be photographed with George
Monday, March 21st, 11-2, Hirst Lounge, campaign event