Dear Colleagues,

As we take bold steps to respond to the Strategic Plan’s calls to reorient, reenvision, and rethink our educational and research missions, we are committed to ensuring that we are creating a more equitable, inclusive, and empowering environment for all our faculty and students. This fall, as we continue to advance our Strategic Plan implementation efforts, we will be undertaking a series of important conversations and initiatives that will help us work toward this goal.

In recent months, we have launched several initiatives to support our Strategic Plan’s goals of transformational leadership, academic excellence, and social justice. These initiatives include the creation of a new Faculty and Librarian Excellence and Equity series, which will feature professional development sessions led by experts in the field. Additionally, we have begun a series of Transformational Leadership Workshops, which will be held on alternating Tuesdays and Thursdays. These workshops will focus on topics such as authenticity, emotional intelligence, and effective communication, and will be open to all faculty and staff.

On Oct. 4, we will be hosting the first session of the Faculty and Librarian Excellence and Equity series, entitled “BurnED Out: Addressing Burnout and Compassion Fatigue in the Workplace.” This session will feature a panel discussion on the topic of burnout, with experts from the field sharing their insights and strategies for addressing this issue. The event will be held from 6 to 7 p.m. in the Provost’s Office.

In addition to these initiatives, we will be launching the Strategic Enrollment Plan (SEP), which will be led by the Dean of Enrollment Management and will focus on areas such as recruitment, student retention, and diversity and inclusion. The SEP will be a key component of our efforts to ensure that USF is a more diverse, inclusive, and welcoming community for all our students.

The SEP will feature a number of initiatives, including a series of forums and working groups that will focus on topics such as diversity and inclusion, student engagement, and professional development. These initiatives will be led by members of the USF community, including faculty and staff from across the university.

To learn more about the SEP and to register for upcoming events, please visit the Strategic Enrollment Plan website. You can also find information about the Transformational Leadership Workshops and the Faculty and Librarian Excellence and Equity series on the website.

We look forward to working together to advance our Strategic Plan and to creating a more equitable, inclusive, and empowering environment for all our faculty and students.

Warmly,

Chinyere Oparah
Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs

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**Latinas Unidas Heritage Month**

In honor of Latinas Unidas Heritage Month, the provost’s office will be hosting a series of events to celebrate the contributions of Latinx women to the University of San Francisco. The inaugural lecture will be given by Miguel Díaz, retired USF professor of Gender and Sexualities Studies, on the theme of Latinx Thought & the Ignatian Tradition, University Ministry, Latin@-Chican@ Studies, and Theology & Religious Studies. This inaugural lecture will be held on Sept. 29, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the provost’s office.

In addition to the inaugural lecture, we will be hosting a number of other events throughout the month, including a series of workshops and discussions on topics such as gender and diversity. These events will be open to all members of the USF community, and we encourage you to attend and participate in these important conversations.

**Future Sessions**

Future sessions will focus on creating community for early-career BIPOC faculty and on applying an ADEI lens to the tenure and promotion review process. These sessions will be open to all members of the USF community, and we encourage you to attend and participate in these important conversations.

Please join us for these important events and help us create a more equitable, inclusive, and empowering environment for all our faculty and students.

Warmly,

Chinyere Oparah
Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs

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**Transformational Leadership Workshops**

The events of this week will provide an opportunity to dialogue for the faculty, staff, and students. In support from a number of leaders who seek to ensure a more equitable climate for our students, we will be embarking on a series of events that will focus on the key themes of diversity, equity, and inclusion. These events will be held on alternating Tuesdays and Thursdays.

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