

College of Education Diversity Equity and Inclusion Committee

REVISED: Statement on the Murder of George Floyd and Systemic and Institutional Racism in America



Current Members: Elroy Aguiar, Amanda Dobbins, Sara McDaniel (co-chair), Carlton McHargh and (co-chair), Cailin Kerch, Emily Lund, Karen Spector, Jingping Sun, & Liza Wilson [This committee gladly accepts more members who are able to contribute to this urgent and important work.]

At times impatience is a virtue. Impatience for change is a virtue when Black men like George Floyd can be murdered on the street by police who have sworn to serve and protect the public. Impatience for change is a virtue when people care more about looting and rioting than 400 years of inequality, violence, and murder.

As the COE DEI Committee, we clearly and unequivocally condemn and denounce systemic racism and racial violence. As a College of Education, it is our responsibility to dismantle unjust systems and build more just and fair educational practices and policies. We recognize that the historical lack of equal educational access and quality has been a critical contributing factor to the reproduction of racialized relations, including the school-to-prison pipeline.

We don't need more statements, such as this one; what we need is action that materializes a future that is more racially just than our present moment. We commit to the following action items and strongly recommend all COE faculty, staff, administrators, and students do the same in an effort to create a place where we all belong:

1. 1. Make additional commitments from the College to improve the yield and support of underrepresented students
2. Make a commitment to provide staff opportunities for exposure and mentorship for professional growth and promotion.
3. Strengthen the COE mentorship program for junior faculty.
4. Improve historical knowledge of racialized relations.
5. Improve anti-racist knowledge, pedagogies, and management practices (visit our padlet for resources: <https://bit.ly/2XE8DW3>).

6. As fitting your professional responsibilities, teach, serve, and/or conduct research through an equity lens, amply citing minoritized authors.
7. Include robust anti-bias and social justice content and standards throughout all COE coursework.
8. Participate in UA DEI events.
9. Create a yearly series of colloquia featuring anti-racist topics for the COE community.
10. Change the name of Graves Hall to Autherine Lucy Hall.

Sincerely,

The College of Education Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee