



Office for Institutional Diversity

Diversity and Inclusion: A Shared Responsibility

Newsletter

Summer 2022 Edition

Cultivating a Culture of Inclusion and Belonging

Welcome

Welcoming a new academic year at Boston College, as the summer draws to a close, we continue to be inspired in renewing our commitment to advancing a more diverse and inclusive campus community where everyone feels welcomed, respected, and valued. With the fall semester comes new programs, lectures, and interactive learning opportunities building our knowledge and increasing our awareness of intercultural competence. Change does not occur unless we are dedicated to doing the hard work of bridging our differences, and working to cultivate inclusive excellence at all levels of our institution. Now more than ever we must come together to build a community where we can flourish and thrive personally, academically, and professionally. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming programs, events, and educational initiatives.

With gratitude,
Patricia Lowe, Associate Vice President

Save the Date
September 13, 2022
Affinity Groups Community Building Welcome Luncheon
[RSVP LINK](#)
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm, Gasson 100

Diversity and Inclusion Summit: Cultivating a Culture of Inclusion and Belonging

The 7th annual **Diversity and Inclusion Summit** returned in person since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Summit took place on May 25, 2022, in Gasson Hall, bringing over 220 faculty and staff for a full day of informative and engaging presentations, lectures, and speakers. Concurrent session topics included supporting LGBTQ+ students, multifaith belonging, innovation through human-centered design thinking, and several more.

The Afternoon Panel, a highlight of the day, was moderated by Shawn McShay, Assistant Dean, Graduate Enrollment Management at Boston College Law School, and featured the perspectives of Richard Jackson, Associate Professor in the Lynch School of Education and Human Development; Shawna Cooper Whitehead, Vice President of Student Affairs; Burton Howell, Executive Director of Intersections and the Center for Ignatian Spirituality; Katherine Gregory, Dean of Connell School of Nursing. They engaged in conversations about how they each define a culture of inclusion and belonging, and how to cultivate that culture on an individual and systemic level. The day began and ended with wise words from the keynote speaker, Reverend Dr. Jamie Washington, President & Founder of the Washington Consulting Group (WCG).

For more information on past summits and recordings, please visit the [program's website](#).



*"There is much work to continue doing, but [the world] is not the same as it was. And so we get to see what's our work as we prepare the next generation for the next round, for a more inclusive world"-
Rev. Dr. Jamie Washington,*

Morning Keynote, 2022 Summit

Pictured above: Rev. Dr. Washington presenting the morning keynote to Summit attendees

"I'm glad that [Boston College] recognizes the importance of working on these issues, and attending the Summit was a very informative and inspiring experience"
*"...it was wonderful to be back in person and taking over Gasson Hall. I could feel the energy and loved being in that space together after two very long years!"-
Testimonials from 2022 Summit Attendees*

Save the Date

May 24, 2023

8th Diversity & Inclusion Summit



Courageous Conversations Towards Racial Justice

Courageous Conversations Towards Racial Justice is a dialogue-centered initiative on racism and privilege designed to address racial healing, equity, and justice. The Courageous Conversations Facilitation Team, a group of faculty, students and administrators, brings together a diverse group of the BC Community for conversations on race and racial justice. Topics from past conversations include the Commodification of BIPOC Bodies, Race in College Admissions, and the Social Construction of Whiteness. This program is designed in strategic partnership with OID, Student Affairs, O'Neill Library, and the Provost's Office. *Stay tuned for this academic year's Courageous Conversations!*

Table Talk Diversity Series

The Office for Institutional Diversity (OID) hosted two **Table Talk Diversity Series** programs in the 2021-2022 academic year. **Fall semester's program, "Spirituals: Worship, Instruction, and Protest," featuring speaker Shannon Jacob**, Part-Time Faculty in the African and African Diaspora Studies Program, led a group of 20 attendees in an engaging conversation about the origins of spirituals and the effectiveness and necessity of these songs in a historical context. **Spring semester's program, "Robert Morris: Civil Rights Lawyer &**

Antislavery Activist," was co-hosted in collaboration with the **Boston College Law School Library**. The Boston College Law School Library Team (Avi Bauer, Mary Sarah Bilder, Laurel Davis) shared with a group of 50+ attendees the history and contributions of Robert Morris, an overlooked figure in American history who inspired many in his fight for equal human rights while holding deep connections to Boston College in its earliest days.

The first Table Talk of the academic year will feature Dr. Liane Young, Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience and director of the Morality Lab at Boston College.

Click the link [here](#) to view the website for Table Talk, and to stay tuned for more information on 2022-2023's programs!

Cultural Competence Engagement Modules (CEM) Fall Registration

The **CEM**, a six-session course open to all faculty, staff, and departments designed to help participants acquire the knowledge, language, behavioral, and cultural skills necessary to navigate within a diverse and inclusive community, is now open for fall registration. **If interested in signing up for the fall open enrollment, please click the button below to register.**

CEM Fall 2022 REGISTRATION LINK

Additional Initiatives

The Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI) provides practical, in-depth information (including individual and group profile reports), and continues to grow at Boston College, and the office is hoping to increase its number of assessments in the upcoming academic year. The OID is proud to communicate an increase in the number of Qualified Administrators (QAs), current numbers are at 38 certified to provide debriefs across campus. If interested in learning more about the IDI, please email Patricia Lowe (patricia.lowe@bc.edu)

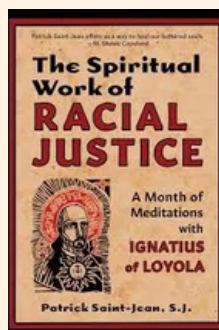
The Eyes to See: Anti-Racism Examen, designed by the Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities (AJCU), is a program focusing on matters of race and racism that are specific to us and our institution. Eyes to See participants have the opportunity to engage in guided conversations and strategic collaborations that build reflective practices, strengthening our commitment to an antiracist working and learning environment at Boston College. This program is projected to continue in the upcoming fall semester. If your department or team is interested or would like more information, please contact Burt Howell (howellbu@bc.edu) or Patricia Lowe (patricia.lowe@bc.edu) with any questions.

Stay Tuned For DEI Toolkits

Stay tuned for the launching of OID's DEI Toolkits! These toolkits include a glossary of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, belonging and other key terms, resources for racial justice and awareness, and more! Please visit our website bc.edu/diversity



Recommended Reading



The Spiritual Work of Racial Justice: A Month of Meditations with Ignatius of Loyola by Patrick Saint-Jean, S.J. (available in the [Theology and Ministry Library](#))

"The Spiritual Work of Racial Justice is a meaningful and practical resource for our times. Through Ignatian Spiritual Exercises, Patrick Saint-Jean, S.J. offers an opportunity to continue the pursuit of racial justice as a necessary component of faith. Each meditation includes

relevant history and grounded spiritual practices. The book is refreshing and accessible to all"-Barbara Holmes, author of *Joy Unspeakable: Contemplative Practices of the Black Church and Liberation and the Cosmos*

Accessibility Liaison Initiative (ALI)

On June 28, over 30 staff and faculty members joined together in a meeting with the **Disability Services Coordinating Committee (DSCC) to review the Accessibility Liaison Initiative**. The DSCC recognizes all individuals as important and valued members of the Boston College community and works to create environments that are inclusive, accessible, and effective, representing a collaborative, university-wide effort that focuses on continuous improvement of accessibility services.

Both the Diversity Advisory Committee (DAC) and Diversity Steering Committee (DSC) will continue to meet and discuss the ALI on a semesterly basis in the upcoming academic year. If you have any ideas or topics about accessibility that you want to bring to the DSCC or to our office, please email us at diversity@bc.edu

The Ricci Institute for Chinese-Western Cultural History



Pictured left: Xiangyi Liu, a 2022 summer Doctoral Fellow at the Ricci Institute. Last month, Liu gave a Pipa concert at the Institute, performing both traditional and modern music compositions from China, Korea, Japan, and the U.S.

The Ricci Institute for Chinese-Western Cultural History at Boston College is an internationally renowned research center for the study of Chinese-Western cultural exchange. With a focus on the Jesuit missions of the 16th-19th centuries and the history of Christianity in China and East Asia, the the Institute supports research on a diverse range of interests, including Chinese and East Asian history and relations with Europe, Eastern and Western religion, culture, and philosophy, and science and technology. Click the button to learn more about the Ricci Institute and read about their events.

Ricci Institute

This fall semester's Living Out the Jesuit Mission: Diverse Perspective Series program will be hosted by the OID and the Ricci Institute, titled, "The Ricci Institute: Promoting Cross-Cultural Dialogue & Friendship Among Scholars." M. Antoni Ucerler, S.J., Director of the Ricci Institute will be the speaker at this event, on Wednesday, October 18 @ 12:00 p.m. (location TBD).

Upcoming Events

BCCWF Member Spotlight: Domestic Violence Awareness and Support at Cornell University



This event, sponsored by the Center for Work & Family, will take place via Zoom on Wednesday, September 14 @ 12:00-12:30 p.m. (click [here](#) for the registration link) Michelle Artibee, Director of Workforce Wellbeing at Cornell, will share their approach to raising awareness and developing supports

around domestic violence. This session is taking place before DV Awareness Month in October to provide members with an opportunity to learn new ideas they can implement at their own organizations.

Françoise Mouly and Art Spiegelman: A Conversation with Françoise Mouly and Art Spiegelman



This event, as part of the Boston College Lowell Humanities Series and cosponsored by the Boston College McMullen Museum of Art, Center for Jewish/Christian Learning, Center for Human Rights and International Justice, Rappaport Center for Law and Public Policy, American Studies Program,

Literature Core Program, English Department, History Department, Art, Art History and Film Department, will take place at the Robsham Theater Arts Center on Wednesday, September 28 @ 7:00 p.m., free and open to the public. The McMullen Museum is pleased to present a conversation among Françoise Mouly, Art Spiegelman, and co-curator of the exhibition American Alternative Comics, 1980–2000: Raw, Weirdo, and Beyond, John McCoy. This event coincides with the recent opening of American Alternative Comics featuring Mouly's and Spiegelman's work.

Structural Racism in the United States: Engaging the Interstices of Migration, Indigenous Peoples' Rights, and the Legacies of Settler Colonialism



This 1.5 day symposium will explore the nature, history, legal, and institutional and societal instantiations of structural racism at three particular

sites: struggles for self-determination, claims for reparations, and im/migrants' rights claims.



The symposium begins with a lecture at Gasson 100 on Thursday, October 6 @ 7:00 p.m. by Natsu Taylor Saito, Regents' Professor Emerita at Georgia State University's College of Law, who will frame the symposium with a lecture entitled "Settler Colonialism, Race and the Law: Why Structural Racism Persists." Natsu Taylor Saito teaches public international law and international human rights; seminars in race and the law, federal Indian law, and indigenous rights; and professional responsibility. She has served as advisor to the Asian American Law Student Association, the Latinx and Caribbean Law Student Association, the Immigration Law Society, and the student chapter of the National Lawyers Guild. Saito's scholarship focuses on the legal history of race in the United States, the plenary power doctrine as applied to immigrants, American Indians, and U.S. territorial possessions, and the human rights implications of U.S. governmental policies, particularly with regard to the suppression of political dissent. The lecture is also part of the Lowell Humanities Series at Boston College.

On Friday, October 7, there will be an all day session with three topical panel presentations followed by a concluding panel:

- Settler Colonialism, "Race" and Indigenous Survivance and Resistance
- Structural Racism and Redress
- Migration, Rights and Reclamations
- Concluding panel

Click [here](#) to view more event details and to register

Ocean Vuong: Fiction Days and Poetry Days Present Ocean Vuong: Time Is a Mother



This event, as part of the Boston College Lowell Humanities Series and cosponsored by the Boston College Fiction Days Series, Poetry Days Series, American Studies Program, Literature Core Program, Asian American Studies Program and English Department, will take place at Devlin 110 on

Wednesday, October 19 @ 7:00 p.m., free and open to the public.

Ocean Vuong's striking body of work contains timeless themes of class, queerness, and identity. His New York Times-bestselling novel, *On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous*, is an evocative coming-of-age epistolary and lyrical work of self-discovery and diaspora. Framed as a letter from a son to his mother, this shattering portrait of family, first love, and the redemptive power of storytelling asks how to survive, how to find joy in darkness, and the meaning of American identity—questions that power the most important debut novel of many years.

Visit the OID website at www.bc.edu/diversity to see more on what we offer, community events, and to engage in online resources.

Email us diversity@bc.edu or visit our office:

Office for Institutional Diversity

129 Lake Street, Room 211, Brighton Campus

617-552-2323