Celebrating Black History Month: Resources for Anti-Racist Teaching and Social Justice in Higher Education

As February is quickly coming to a close, we would like to take a moment to honor Black History Month and celebrate Black excellence in STEM. In a recent video address, University of California President, Michael V. Drake reminded us all to "take this time to learn from the struggles and achievements of those who came before us" and that "we must all stand firm in our commitment to root out any inequality, to engage in antiracist action, and to center justice and inclusion in all that we do."

Below are some highlights of the articles and resources you can use to promote anti-racism and social justice in STEM:

- Becoming an Anti-Racist Educator
- Recreating Wakanda by Promoting Black Excellence in Ecology and Evolution
- Black Scientists Matter
- Understanding and Combating Systemic Racism
- Acknowledging the Current Racial Crisis in the Classroom
- Resources for Teaching Through Traumatic Times
- Resources to Support Students in Response to Racial Trauma
- Antiracism and the Problem with "Achievement Gaps" in STEM Education
- The Antiracist College
- APLU Black History Month Webinar Recording

Two-Part Workshop Series:
Culturally Responsive Assessment in the STEM Classroom: What is it? How Can You Implement It?
April 8th and 15th, 2021

Assessments in higher education remain one of the most difficult places to implement the principles of equity. In this workshop you will explore designing and administering assessments from a uniquely HSI lens, with a focus on the cultural dimensions of learning that play a large role in how students from non-dominant cultural ways of knowing are engaged or motivated to undertake the tasks needed to master material.

Learn more here.

Teaching and Leadership Excellence:
NISOD 2021 Virtual Conference
April 28th - 30th, 2021

The National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) is a membership organization committed to promoting and celebrating excellence in teaching, learning, and leadership at community and technical colleges. Engage in learning, sharing, and celebrating with community and technical college educators passionate about teaching and learning.

The Southern California Regional Collaborative can support up to 5 local community college...
3CSN Wayfinding Online Zoom Series
Join the California Community College Success Network (3CSN) for their ongoing workshop series. New events will be offered every week.

3CSN Civic Dialogues Series
Join 3CSN for a series of 2-hour workshops on Civic Dialogue and how you can incorporate civic engagement into your classes.

Apply Now:
IAspire Leadership Academy
The primary purpose of IAspire Leadership Academy is to develop and train the next generation of underrepresented (URG) leaders in STEM higher education. This program will equip these individuals with skills to lead more effectively in an increasingly complex environment and gain the confidence to influence institutional transformation either in their current position or as they rise to other positions of leadership. This program is open to academic leaders at both 2 and 4 year institutions.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE CORNER

BEIC: Connecting Community College Faculty with Discipline-Based Education Researchers
The Biology Education Intersegmental Collaborative (BEIC) is an NSF-funded research coordination network to facilitate the formation of faculty learning communities (FLCs) consisting of 2-year and 4-year partners.

Applications are open now for both participants and mentors. Contact beic-rcn@uci.edu with questions.

3CSN Spring Regional Virtual Meet Up - Los Angeles & Foothill Inland Empire
March 19th, 10:00-11:30 am PST
Join this interactive session to meet and reengage with others in your region, share emerging ideas from the field, voice your professional learning needs at the college and regional level, share and benefit from resources specific to your area, and consider ways we can leverage this moment to make lasting change for our students, institutions, and the communities we serve!

Check Out Aspire's Discipline-Specific National Partners:

American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges (AMATYC)
The American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges (AMATYC), strives to be the leading voice and resource for excellence in mathematics education in the first two years of college. Learn more about their resources and events at their website.

Two-Year College Chemistry Consortium (2YC3)
The Two Year College Chemistry Consortium (2YC3) is dedicated to Maintaining and Improving the Quality of Chemistry Offerings in the Two-Year Colleges. Learn more about their resources and events at their website.
Looking to get more experience and training in Online Teaching? Get certified for the California Community College system today by participating in these upcoming @ONE courses and workshops!

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**Life Science Education Special Issue Call for Abstracts: Community College Biology Education Research**

To bring attention to community college biology education and encourage greater attention to these students and instructors, *CBE – Life Sciences Education* (LSE) will publish a special issue in 2022 highlighting research articles, essays, and features that amplify the voices of community college students, instructors, researchers, and authors. [Submit an abstract here](#).

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**Community College News**

- The Community College Innovation Challenge Returns
- Celebrating Black history at the nation’s community colleges
- Why traumatized students can’t learn and what community colleges can do about it
- 10 community colleges get chance to reshape racial equity

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**WORKING TOWARDS EQUITY IN HIGHER ED**

**Striving for Inclusion in Academic Biology Series**

This [initiative](#) sponsored by the Society for the Advancement of Biology Education Research (SABER) is focused on promoting awareness, understanding and commitment to change academic biology environments to be more inclusive.

- The influence of kindness and community in broadening participation: March 4th
- Systemic Disadvantages for LGBTQ Professionals in STEM: March 18th
- Disability Culture in the Academy: Stories, Lessons, & Research: April 1st
- Confronting Gendered Experiences in Field Research: April 15th

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**Featured Resource**

**The Time is Now: Strategies to Address Racism, Equity, and the Retention of Black Faculty**

After decades of “pipeline” programs that focus on preparing Black faculty to navigate racist and inequitable environments, institutions must take responsibility for developing programs, policies, and structures to make progress and create change. [Read more here](#).

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**Featured Event Series:**

**Socially Just Design in Postsecondary Education**

The content in this [series](#) will help contributors and participants alike share successes and failures in their quest to identify and redesign policies, practices, pedagogies, and structures that, if left unexamined and unaddressed, will continue to reproduce inequitable outcomes in postsecondary education.
Featured Article:
How Kindness is Part of an Excellent STEM Education

Author Mica Estrada writes: "... Many STEM scholars — students and faculty — connected to the premise of the paper; that to increase persistence of people excluded because of their ethnicity and race (PEERs), we must provide cues that affirm inclusion. This affirmation is as essential as reducing bias, prejudice and discrimination when building an excellent academic community. In short, getting rid of the negative is not enough; we also must grow the positive."

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Equity and Social Justice in Higher Education in the News

- The Antiracist College
- Are Social Justice and Tenure Compatible?
- Higher Ed’s 7 Deadly Sins
- Antiracism and the Problem with "Achievement Gaps" in STEM Education
- Black Representation in Academia and Corporate America Remains Inadequate in 2021
- Racelighting: A Prevalent Version of Gaslighting of People of Color
- Equitable and Inclusive Practices Designed to Reduce Equity Gaps in Undergraduate Chemistry Courses

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REMOTE TEACHING RESOURCES

Featured Resource:
Enabling Live Transcriptions in Your Zoom Meetings

Students with disabilities benefit from real-time automated captions and recorded captions for many reasons. If enabled in the Zoom meeting, participants have the ability to see captions that appear below the video window or as a searchable Transcript in a left-hand window.

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Remote Teaching in the News

- Keeping COVID-19 From Sidelining Equity
- What We’ve Lost in a Year of Virtual Teaching
- How to Play in the College Classroom in a Pandemic, and Why
- Mindfulness in Class and in Life: Mental Health and Emotional Resilience Alongside Academic Studies
WEBINARS AND WORKSHOPS

Building Strong Partnerships with Faculty to Increase Student Success
March 8th, 2021, 10:00 am PST

Approaching Strategic Enrollment Management and Retention with a Focus on Equity
March 22nd, 2021, 10:00 am PST

Summer Institutes of Scientific Teaching: Friday Happy Hours
- Feb 26: Christine Andrews "Increasing a Sense of Belonging and Science Literacy Through CUREs"
- Mar 5: Joshua Caulkins "Metacognition & Self-regulated Learning"
- Mar 12: Erin Vasudevan, Peter Gergen & Bill Collins "The Pen is Mightier: Writing-to-Learn in Large-enrollment Classes"

Sowing the Seeds of Diversity in Engineering
March 18th, 9-10 am PST

Black Feminist Health Science Studies Symposium
March 18th, 2021

Aspire Equity in Action Workshop Series:
- Inclusive Mentoring | March 26th, 10-11:30 am PST
- Inclusive Colleagues & Leadership | April 23rd, 10-11:30 am PST

Virtual Conference on Diversity, Equity, and Student Success: Upholding These Truths: Equity, Diversity, and Democracy
March 24th - 25th, 2021

Enhancing Institutional Capacity for Quality, Equity, and Student Engagement
June 15-18th, 2021

Looking for more events?
Check Out the UCLA CEILS Curated Calendar of Events

Looking for other online events related to inclusive teaching or student equity? Check out the CEILS calendar of events for a curated list of local and national workshops, webinars, and conferences! The calendar is updated regularly so check back often.

REGIONAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Looking for jobs at local Community Colleges?
Visit the CCC Registry!!!

This web site provides a number of services for individuals seeking employment as a faculty, support staff or manager at a California Community College.
Featured Job Opportunity:
**Associate Director for Collaborative Initiatives in Faculty Development**

UCLA CEILS seeks an expert in creating sustainable models for driving pedagogical improvement and instructional innovation among faculty and graduate students engaged in undergraduate education within the Humanities.

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**Featured Job Opportunities:**
**Tenure-Track Faculty to Support the African American Community**

San Diego State is embarking on a bold new effort to hire nine tenure-track faculty with a demonstrated history of working with and supporting the African-American community.

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- **Lecturer**
  Life Science Career Exploration
  University of California, Los Angeles
  [more info here]

- **Academic Administrator/Coordinator**
  Outreach and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
  University of California, Los Angeles
  [more info here]

- **Assistant Adjunct Professor**
  Organic, Physical, and General Chemistry
  University of California, Los Angeles
  [more info here]

- **Assistant Teaching Professor**
  Chemistry and Biochemistry
  University of California, Santa Cruz
  [more info here]

- **Adjunct and Part-Time Positions**
  (multiple disciplines)
  Coast Colleges
  [more info here]

- **Adjunct and Part-Time Positions**
  (multiple disciplines)
  Ventura County Community College District
  [more info here]

- **Adjunct and Part-Time Positions**
  (multiple disciplines)
  Los Angeles Community College District
  [more info here]

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To have your openings posted in our newsletter, please send job announcements to aspire.calrc@gmail.com

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CONNECT WITH THE CALIFORNIA REGIONAL COLLABORATIVE
If your organization is a regional partner please send all inquiries and announcements to aspire.calrc@gmail.com.

If you wish to be added to the California Regional Collaborative mailing list for future newsletters and special announcements, please send your request to aspire.calrc@gmail.com.

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**LEARN MORE ABOUT WHAT WE DO**

**The California Regional Collaborative** is a regional network of 2- and 4- year institutions, working together towards improving overall outcomes in STEM higher education, and in particular for students and faculty from underrepresented groups.

We work with graduate students and other potential “future faculty” from groups that are underrepresented in academia to address the need to increase diversity in our regional colleges to better reflect the diversity of our students. These trainees will support teaching efforts, education research initiatives, and curriculum development needs in collaboration with their 2- year internship site. In addition, regional programming such as webinars, symposiums, conferences, panels, and other events supports both current faculty along with future faculty. This will be coupled with an assessment plan to understand regional needs and assess the impact of our work.

The California Regional Collaborative is part of a network of collaboratives, national organizations, and initiatives participating in the NSF INCLUDES Aspire Alliance.

Visit the **ASPIRE Alliance website** to learn more

Subscribe to the Aspire Alliance newsletter here: **Subscribe**