

Diversity & Social Justice Training for Student Leaders

The Office of Diversity and Inclusion is excited to offer two 90-minute training opportunities for student leaders this fall. We encourage faculty and staff to send their student leaders and student workers to both training sessions. Examples of student leaders/workers include: Student Athlete Advisory Committee, Office Assistants, Resident Assistants, Student Orientation Counselors, etc.

Reasons to send your students to these trainings:

- Living in a global society, employers are looking for culturally competent students who have experience working with diverse populations.
- Racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, and other forms of prejudice and discrimination are difficult topics to talk about. These trainings provide students with an opportunity to navigate difficult dialogues surrounding these issues.
- Student leaders who have a foundation of knowledge in social justice and are able to intervene in situations involving prejudice or discrimination can help create a more inclusive campus community, which can also support higher retention and graduation rates for diverse students.
- Directly aligned with MSUM's strategic anchor of "Creating a campus community that is diverse, inclusive, globally aware, and just."

Social Justice 101 Presented by Dana Bisignani, MSUM Women's Center Coordinator

Monday, August 20th from 10:00-11:30 AM (CMU Ballroom)

This 90-minute interactive presentation introduces students to core concepts of critical social justice, including identity, privilege and oppression, intersectionality and microaggressions. The second half provides tools and scenarios to help students learn to become better listeners and navigate difficult dialogues in day-to-day interactions. Students will gain a more nuanced understanding of how identity shapes our experiences and the role each of us can play in creating more inclusive communities.

GTC Dramatic Dialogues Presents "You. Me. We."

Tuesday, August 21st from 9:30-11:00 AM (CMU Ballroom)

An interactive program on racism, sexism, and LGBTQ issues especially for college students. Presented by GTC Dramatic Dialogues, You. Me. We. begins with a monologue that exposes the often-unintentional ugliness of prejudice, setting the stage for a lively discussion of diversity. Then in two scenes, we follow students as they attempt to navigate the sometimes-difficult terrain of multicultural campus relationships. During talk-backs, students can confront the characters and voice their own opinions on issues of race, sex, sexual orientation, and gender. You. Me. We. is a 90-minute program that gets college students talking about diversity.

This program may include explicit or vulgar language reflecting the way some people may talk about the issues and contains scenes that represent real life situations that may cause discomfort, anxiety, or an emotional response. Counseling staff from Hendrix will be available to speak with students who need to leave the training to talk during or after the program.

We recommend that departments schedule time to debrief with their students following the second training on August 22nd. Staff/faculty supervisors are welcome to attend the trainings so they can facilitate a debrief session with their students.

Learning outcomes:

- Students will be able to define core diversity and social justice concepts, including privilege, oppression, and microaggression.
- Students will begin to recognize areas where they have privilege and how this shapes their experiences and interactions.
- Students will analyze how intersecting identities shape systems of power on individual and institutional levels in our everyday lives.
- Students will gain strategies for proactively responding to discrimination and navigating difficult dialogues.

Expectations of staff/faculty supervisors:

- Make this training required for student leaders and stress the importance
- Encourage student interaction during the trainings
- Facilitate debrief with students following the second training
- Require students to complete pre- and post-training surveys