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A message from the Dean...

I am so excited to welcome you all back to campus! I hope you were able to enjoy time to slow down a bit over the summer. To say the past year has been eventful is the understatement of the century. But thanks to the response efforts made by the university to keep Redbirds teaching, learning, researching, and thriving safely during this pandemic, we are moving forward cautiously and hopefully.

Part of moving forward with hope is continuing our efforts to maintain a nurturing, safe, and inclusive environment for *all* to learn, teach, and grow. But where do we go from there? You have no doubt heard the quote, "Be the change you wish to see in the world." Well...how do we do *that*? The answer? There are *many* ways, and they need not be grand gestures to make an enormous impact. In this issue of the **commUNITY** newsletter, we'll discuss simple things you can do to *be the change* and walk the walk, not just talk the talk.

Always know that your questions, concerns, and insights are always valid, always welcome. **Because all are welcome here.**

How do I...be the change

I want to make a difference, but I don't know how to do it in ways that show my efforts are authentic.



Learn students' names and how to pronounce them.
Don't assign nicknames to them because they are easier for you to remember.

Treat others as individuals
Do not expect others to speak for an entire demographic group or make assumptions about their membership in one. Be aware of stereotypes and work to not perpetuate them. Be consistent in how you treat others and cautious about being overprotective of or unduly strict toward any group or individual.

Learn about Pronouns & why they matter
People often make assumptions about the gender of another person based on the person's appearance or name. Using someone's pronouns is a way to show your respect for them. Invite them to share their pronouns with you by first sharing yours. You can also put them in the signature line of your email or edit your Zoom profile to specify them.
Learn more: <https://www.myprouns.org> or check out [this podcast](#)

Address behaviors, attitudes, and comments that are offensive and alienating
Make it a teachable moment—inside and outside of the classroom!
Encourage critical reflection on these assumptions or positions.

Get to know your students

- ⇒ in-class surveys and activities
- ⇒ office hours
- ⇒ online chats
- ⇒ Let them see you as a human being—share your passions and interests, things that you struggle with, how you learn best

Want to learn more? Check out this webinar!
Talk Into Action:
[How to Practice Anti-Racism in Healthcare](#)



EVENTS

Implicit Bias

sponsored by Center for Teaching, Learning & Technology
• Sept 10 • 12-1:30pm

Party and a performance of Kinky Boots at The Paramount

sponsored by the LGBTQA+ Alumni Network
• Sept 12 • 3:30-8pm

Incorporating Advocacy Into Your Teaching and Research

sponsored by the Center for Civic Engagement, Office of Governmental Relations, Alumni Engagement, and SGA
• Sept 15 • 3:30pm

Creation of Whiteness

sponsored by Center for Teaching, Learning & Technology
• Sept 17 • 12-1:30pm

The Equitable and Inclusive Syllabus

sponsored by Center for Teaching, Learning & Technology
• Sept 24 • 12-1:30pm

So, You Want to Learn about Lobbying...

sponsored by Center for Civic Engagement, Office of Governmental Relations, Alumni Engagement, and SGA
• Sept 28 • 5pm

T.J. Dedeaux-Norris: Second Line

sponsored by University Galleries
• Aug 4-Dec 12 • 12-4pm