



May 15, 2016

Dear Colleagues:

We are pleased to announce that the SUNY Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and the University Faculty Senate will be hosting a conference entitled “*Awareness to Action: Building a Culture of Inclusive Excellence*” on November 9-10, 2016 at the Albany Marriott Hotel (<http://www.suny.edu/2016diversityconference/>). This conference will leverage SUNY investments in student success and diversity while exploring best practices in recruitment and retention of students, faculty and staff within the domain of higher education.

At SUNY, diversity can be broadly defined to include all aspects of human difference, including but not limited to, age, disability, race, ethnicity, gender, gender expression and identity, language heritage, learning style, national origin, sexual orientation, religion, socio-economic status, status as a veteran and world-view.

Who is invited? State University faculty (full time and contingent), administrators and staff are the primary audience. The community and educational partners are also welcome to attend this conference. It is designed to examine proven methodologies, strategies and best practices to facilitate diversity, equity and inclusion on campuses as well as encourage the exchange of ideas on the recruitment and retention of faculty and students, as well as the graduation of diverse students, particularly those from historically underrepresented groups.

Call for Proposals: Opportunities for presentations will include workshops and posters. Proposals on topics that support equity in the workplace and in the classroom (including research that demonstrates the impact of programs on inclusion and student, staff or faculty growth and success) should be no more than 750 words. Our planning committee has developed a separate detailed listing of topics that can be used to develop a workshop or panel presentation - please refer to the “Diversity Workshop/Panel Presentation Guidelines.” Proposals should be submitted using the *Call for Proposal* form located on at the conference website at <http://www.suny.edu/2016diversityconference/>.

The deadline for proposals is August 15, 2016.

Workshop Presentations: Workshops will be approximately 90 minutes in length and held over the course of two days in four concurrent sessions at this conference. Presentation proposals that outline best practices to ensure diversity, equity and inclusion across one or more of the following strands are invited:

1. Building an Accessible System for Students, Faculty, Staff and Administrators
2. Strategies for Success for Students, Faculty, Staff and Administrators
3. Campus and Community Climate
4. Strategic Diversity Leadership
5. Inclusion is an Action Word
6. Social Justice, Activism and Critical Pedagogy
7. Teaching and Learning through Film/Video and Social Media

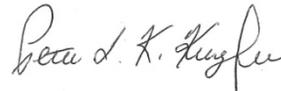
Poster Presentations: Posters are encouraged if they include elements of any of the strands discussed above. Posters will be on display throughout the event, with a specific time set aside for their presentation and discussion.

For more information, please feel free to contact Carlos Medina at 518-320-1189 or at 2016DiversityConf@suny.edu.

Sincerely,



Carlos Medina
Vice Chancellor & Chief Diversity Officer
Office of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion



Peter Knuepfer
President
University Faculty Senate