

A Word with Jacqueline Peterson



Jacqueline Peterson
Special Advisor to the
President
Harkins 312

Greetings PC Community!

On behalf of the Institutional Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (IDEI) team, we are delighted to present the inaugural issue of the Providence College, IDEI IN OUR COMMUNITY newsletter. This quarterly communication is designed to provide insight about the many initiatives, events, and programs happening at PC that celebrate diversity, promote inclusivity, and support the College's aspiration of becoming a beloved community.

Transparency and communication are key to ensuring that all in the campus community are aware of the collective efforts in progress to advance equity and inclusion. To that end, the newsletter will provide updates on planning, collaborations, and accomplishments occurring across all areas of the College that pertain to diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI). Each issue will highlight individuals, departments, and organizations engaged in fostering a more inclusive campus community. IDEI IN OUR COMMUNITY provides a forum for all to share reflections, give input, and offer ideas and suggestions that further our commitment to provide a welcoming living, learning, and working environment for people of all identities. We invite and look forward to your contributions and participation in this effort. Warm Regards!

Spotlight: Women's and Gender Studies 25th Anniversary Celebration



Campus Spotlight:
Dr. Abigail Brooks,
Chair of Women's and
Gender Studies

The Women's and Gender Studies Program at Providence College was thrilled to host alumni, current, retired, and Emerita faculty, current students, and community members in a full day of collaborative teaching, learning, community-building, and celebration of 25 years of the Program at Providence College at the Center @ Moore Hall on October 26, 2019. The Women's and Gender Studies Program has much to celebrate: this past June, we officially expanded our title from "Women's Studies" to "Women's and Gender Studies," signaling the more explicit inclusion of men and masculinities, and gender and gender identities, as critical areas of study and analysis. Our growing program currently has 40 students and counting (17 majors and 23 minors), nearly half of whom are students of color. As an interdisciplinary program, Women's and Gender Studies boasts over 20 affiliated teaching faculty, and students can choose from 10-13 elective courses, across a diverse array fields, each semester. The WGS Program also organizes events and programming each semester that center gender equality and gender justice issues through an intersectional lens, and proudly supports and co-sponsors student-led programming and events that center gender justice and equality, as well.

The 25th Anniversary of the Women's and Gender Studies Program offered participants an opportunity to honor our origins, embrace our present, and celebrate our future. These themes guided the schedule for the day, wherein participants benefited from a rich mixture of critical reflection, teaching, learning, and empowerment. The day opened with a panel centering the wisdom and perspectives of Emerita, retired, and current faculty who are founding and long-standing members of the program. This was followed by a panel of alumni doing path-breaking work across a range of place, space, and professions, and who inspired us to create more avenues for current student/alumni networks and mentorship models in the near future. Mid-day featured a keynote address, "Step Into Your Power," with guest speaker Jamia Wilson, Executive Director at The Feminist Press, and panels on Intersectionality, the Me Too Movement, and Student Leadership and Activism completed the program.

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Hello, Fellow Friars! My name is Quincy Bevely. I serve as the Assistant Vice President for Institutional Diversity and the Title VI Coordinator. Formerly, I served as the Assistant Dean of Students/Director of Cultural Education in the Division of Student Affairs. In my new role, I plan to operationalize the College's goals outlined in PC200's Strategic Plan for Diversity, conduct and review on-going assessment of the campus climate in regards to DEI, and provide educational opportunities for trainings/workshops around social justice, inclusion, and access.

On behalf of IDEI, it is our pleasure to present to the campus community the inaugural Student Diversity Advisory Council (SDAC). The council will serve as a liaison between student-led organizations and the IDEI team by providing direct lines of communication for the two. Council members will not only share their perspectives of campus climate, but also participate in civic discourse around regional, national, and global events, which affect the experiences of members of the PC community and beyond. Furthermore, SDAC is a unique space to dialogue around difference and engage in a multiculturalist perspective. As such, council members will bring ideas to fruition on campus. This may include, but are not limited to the following: innovate DEI programming, informative social justice workshops, self-exploration and pluralism sessions, and opportunities for campus civic engagement.

While all membership positions for SDAC are filled this academic year, the council's seats will be advertised and reopened for applications next Spring. Please be advised that the charge, goal, and vision of the council are on IDEI's website in much more detail. We look forward to and are very optimistic of the direct impact the council will have on advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion at Providence College.



Quincy Bevely
Assistant Vice President
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Please do not forget that the campus Dialogue, Inclusion, & Democracy (D.I.D.) walls, are located in The Center @ Moore Hall and Feinstein Academic Center 3rd Floor. These are interactive walls so that we as a community can have productive and respectful conversations to help us continue down the road to A Beloved Community (ABC).



A gentle reminder, that The Center @ Moore is a place for inclusivity and helping to break down barriers. We do have one of the two campus Community Kitchens here (the other being in the lower level of the Chapel), which is meant to help combat food insecurity. Please be respectful, as we all share the spaces throughout the building.



Dr. Shan Mukhtar
Assistant Vice President/
Director of the Center @
Moore Hall
Moore Hall

“Home is a place you can depend on. You can be yourself, and you feel heard and cared for... just as you are.” Whenever I reflect on the role of the Center at Moore Hall in IDEI’s work, I am reminded of those words, which were said to me by a student last year as we conversed about the feeling of home that PC creates for so many people and the need for that belonging to be shared by everyone on campus. The development of an inclusive campus for people who feel marginalized does not diminish the experience of those who already feel comfortable and valued. Rather, PC’s commitment to becoming “a model for love, inclusivity, and equity in a diverse community” is one that serves every one of us by helping us cooperatively develop a just living, learning, and working environment.

As part of this larger effort, the Center works to celebrate the wealth of cultural and social histories and experiences which come together to form PC. Sometimes that looks like direct programming, such as the Urban Dance Series and the Conversations for Change community organizing and nonviolence workshops. Other times it means collaborating with PC Galleries to curate art for the Center that reflects the wealth of cultural identities represented on campus and stocking the Community Kitchen with healthy food and drink for everyone to share. And sometimes it means simply creating and holding space for students to convene, lead, and share their stories, worries, and aspirations with each other through their own capable voices. We also recognize that in order for the campus to become a home for every member of our community, we must address systemic inequities that create barriers to access and prevent people from thriving. This is why the Center works to incubate and support innovative approaches to inclusive teaching and learning, and student support, such as the development of a space for first generation student outreach.

My hope for our growing division is that our words and actions will communicate to the wider PC community that diversity, equity, and inclusion – what we call DEI - is not a contemporary phenomenon that must be navigated in order to attend a liberal arts college, it is and always has been the cornerstone of effective learning and leadership in a global society.

If you have any ideas on programming you would like to see on the campus, or a potential collaboration outside of the college please contact diversity@providence.edu. If your event is not currently listed on the IDEI website and you would like it to be, please reach out to Cathy O’Leary at coleary5@providence.edu.

Our Community at a Glance



Keynote Speaker Jamia Wilson
at the 25th Anniversary
Celebration Women's and
Gender Studies



Intersectionality Panel at the 25th Anniversary
Celebration Women's and Gender Studies



The Slave Master of Trinidad Event with
Guest Speaker Dr. Selwyn Cudjoe, presented
by Black Studies



Advocates of a Beloved Community and Student
Diversity Advisory Council's Launch

Mini Grants

In keeping with Providence College's mission to provide an exemplary "education for the whole person — body, mind and soul," our institutional commitment to fostering Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) across the PC community, and the goals and objectives of the PC200 Strategic Plan, the Division of Institutional Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (IDEI) has created two (2) DEI Mini-Grants to support efforts by PC faculty, staff, and student organizations that strive to help PC become a "model for love, inclusivity, and equity in a diverse community" (PC200, Goal 2). The DEI Mini-Grants align with five (5) main DEI focus areas and support innovative and community-focus efforts in these areas:

Organizations, faculty and staff are invited to apply. Priority will be given to interdisciplinary, multi-department/division, or unique student club collaborations across 2-3 departments, offices and/or student orgs. We also highly encourage efforts that involve collaborations between students and faculty or students and staff.

For more info, please go to <https://institutional-diversity.providence.edu/minigrants/>

Grants Awarded in 2019

Equity & Engagement Innovation Mini Grants

	1/15/2019
Task Force for Faculty Inclusion	
	1/30/2019
Equity in Education	
	1/30/2019
Minority Faculty Women Dinners	
	2/19/2019
Explore PC	
	6/20/2019
Biology Research Matters/ CF HS collaboration	
	9/10/2019
Planting a seed for the future	
	9/10/2019
Minority Women's Dinners	
	10/8/2019
Building Capacity in Cultural Awareness	
	11/5/2019
Facilitating Mentorship for Underrepresented Students/Biomedical Sciences	

Community & Diversity Mini Grants Award

	1/30/2019
Michael Brown Sr. Lecture	
	2/12/2019
Making Path towards Progressant Title	
	2/14/2019
Conservative Political Action Conference	
	9/10/2019
The Providence Community Festival	
	9/10/2019
Rep Your Flag	
	10/4/2019
Resisting Throwaway Culture	
	10/10/2019
The Missing Link	
	10/18/2019
State of Education in RI lunch series	

Events on our Campus!

Past Events:

October 19th, 2019 - Light up Jouvert
Afro-Caribbean Association

October 26th, 2019 - 25th Anniversary Celebration of Women's and Gender Studies
Women's and Gender Studies

November 7th, 2019 - The Slave Master of Trinidad
Black Studies Program, The Departments of Sociology & Anthropology, American Studies, Women's & Gender Studies, Global Studies, English, and History & Classics

Future Events:

January 20th-24th, 2020 - MLK Convocation Week (Look out for specific events information)
Campus Collaboration

January 22nd, 2020 - Conversations for Change
Moore 122 Arts Café - 4:30 pm-6:30 pm
Providence Student Union

January 24th-26th, 2020 - Reflecting Forward
Alumni Relations, Board of Trustees, Institutional Diversity, Equity & Inclusion and Mission & Ministry

January, 2020
DEI Professional Development Opportunities with Guest Speaker Dr. Diane Goodman
Please contact: diversity@providence.edu for more information on this event

February 12th, 2020 - Dr. Robin DiAngelo Keynote Speaker (Author of White Fragility)
Slavin '64 Hall - 2:00 pm-5:00 pm
Institutional Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

For even more events, please go to our website at:
<https://institutional-diversity.providence.edu/>
To update us on events that are related to diversity, equity and inclusion please contact us at: diversity@providence.edu