May 2, 2018

Upcoming Events and Initiatives at Baruch and CUNY—and Recognizing an Alumnus for Diversity Efforts

Dear Colleagues,

As chief diversity officer, I appreciate your collaboration in spreading the word about the rich and varied roster of events this month in support of our growing culture of diversity and inclusion at Baruch College and the City University of New York (CUNY).

As you might have noticed, our email banner reads, “Diversity, Inclusion, and Cultural Competence.” What is Cultural Competence? Dennis Van Roekel, former president of the National Education Association, describes it as equipping “[e]ducators with the skills, knowledge, and attitude to value the diversity among students” which “will contribute to an educational system designed to serve all students well” in our increasingly diverse classrooms.

To that end, my office and the Weissman School of Arts and Sciences co-sponsored the graduate-student driven Cultural Competency Symposium, which was held on
our campus in November. The objective was to instill confidence in the “next generation of Arts Administrators … in creating, developing, and executing impactful programming and leadership decisions for a diverse and inclusive audience.”

Please consider joining our broader discussion on cultural competence with events this month at Baruch and CUNY.

**Upcoming at Baruch College**

**The Percy E. Sutton SEEK Program Scholarship and Awards Ceremony**

**When:** Friday, May 4, 5-8 pm  
**Where:** NVC Room 14-220  
The Baruch community is invited to the 46th annual SEEK Awards Ceremony to acknowledge its students’ academic achievements and service as well as honor SEEK graduates. This year’s theme is “Education with a Purpose: #TransformingLives.”

**Information Session for the Undoing Racism® Community Organizing Workshop**

**When:** Tuesday, May 8, 3:30-4:30 pm  
**Where:** NVC Room 2-290

The Office of Diversity, Compliance, and Equity Initiatives is sponsoring, along with the Division of Enrollment Management and Strategic Academic Initiatives, the [Undoing Racism® Community Organizing Workshop](#) at Baruch. The College’s Coalition to Undo Racism at Baruch (CURB) will host an information session in advance of the workshop as details are finalized.

**Providing Person-Centered Support: A Workshop on Sexual Violence**

**When:** Tuesday, May 15  
**Where:** NVC Room 14-270  
The Office of Diversity, Compliance, and Equity Initiatives is sponsoring a workshop for the Campus Intervention Team (CIT) to provide person-centered support after disclosures of sexual violence. Facilitated by Mount Sinai Adolescent Health Center’s Youth Empowered conSensuality (YES) program, this workshop’s objectives will be to teach concrete communication skills, explain relevant terminology, and explore what it means to provide trauma-informed care. For further information or to attend, please email [Douglas Medina](mailto:).
“Engage & Reframe Resistance: Work With Your Campus Community to Transform Your Current Culture in Healthy Ways”

When: Wednesday, May 23, 2-4:30 pm
Where: NVC Room 14-280

The Office of Diversity, Compliance, and Equity Initiatives, along with the Division of Student Affairs, is sponsoring “Engage & Reframe Resistance: Work With your Campus Community to Transform Your Current Culture in Healthy Ways,” a webinar led by social justice experts Rev. Sam Offer and Dr. Becky Martinez. This webinar seeks to assist administrators in understanding the political, cultural, and economic factors that contribute to resistance and racial discourse on campus and to target programs and efforts that will promote transformation. The event includes an hour-long discussion.

CURB-Sponsored Book Club Discussions

When: Throughout May
Where: Locations Vary

CURB is sponsoring faculty/staff book club discussions this month on the introduction and first chapter of Slavery by Another Name: The Re-Enslavement of Black People in America From the Civil War to World War II by Douglas A. Blackmon. The book’s introduction and first chapter can be accessed here using bookclub2018 as the password. In addition, the William and Anita Newman Library has multiple copies of the book (E 185.2 B545 2008 and E 185.2 B 545 2009). Sign up for a book club session here.

Upcoming Around CUNY

CUNY Black Male Initiative Spring Benefit

When: Thursday, May 10, 6-9 pm
Where: Borough of Manhattan Community College, 199 Chambers Street

The third annual CUNY BMI Spring Benefit will honor Brooklyn Council Member Jumaane D. Williams, MA; CUNY Chancellor James B. Milliken, JD; and philanthropist Alan Newton, a former CUNY BMI research associate. All proceeds from the event will benefit CUNY BMI student development projects.

Recognizing an Alumnus for Diversity Efforts

Sean Perryman (’08), JD, recently joined the Internet Association (IA), a trade association that represents global internet companies on public policy matters, as the organization’s director of diversity and inclusion policy and counsel. “Sean will
spearhead efforts to improve awareness and understanding of current industry practices and work with IA members to further promote diversity and inclusivity in everything we do,” said Michael Beckerman, the association’s president and CEO.

In the spirit of community, I thank you for making Baruch College’s and CUNY’s commitment to diversity, inclusion, and equal opportunity a priority.

Sincerely,

Mona Jha, Esq.
Chief Diversity Officer