This month, Jasmine Willis-Wallace, Ed.D, has joined OU-Tulsa as the director of diversity, equity, and inclusion. Prior to the current position, she developed a well-rounded experience by working in higher education administration and student affairs.
“It is important that the ideals of diversity, equity and inclusion for all run throughout every effort we make at the University of Oklahoma,” says Belinda Higgs-Hyppolite, OU vice president of diversity, equity, and inclusion. “And having champions for this important work on each campus is vital. We are very excited Dr. Willis-Wallace has decided to join this effort and further the DEI work in Tulsa.” Read more...

Training and Development

Learn About You to Learn How to Interact With Others

Alejandro Covarruvias, Ed.D., and Lionell Daggs III, M.A., will facilitate the second workshop of the faculty and staff learning series centered on micro messaging. The series affords participants the opportunity to continue an introspective journey to learn about themselves and their interactions with others.

Common Read Book Club


Meeting Schedule:
Oct. 26, 2020: Chapters: 1 – 4, Interlude
Nov. 30, 2020: Chapters: 5 – 8
Jan. 25, 2021: Chapters: 9, Interlude, 10 – 12

Registration Form
How to Be an Anti Racist: Uncovering Whiteness

From noon to 2 p.m. Wednesday Oct. 28, the WGS Center for Social Justice will host a fall Teach OUt on Race responding to the continuing pandemic of recent and ongoing acts of anti-Black violence in the United States. The virtual Teach Out on Race will focus on uncovering whiteness and will feature an interactive panel of scholar-activists from the OU/Norman community and beyond, moderated by an expert in whiteness studies.

Visit csj.ou.edu for registration and more information.

DEI Fall 2020 Calendar of Events

At OU, diversity, equity, and inclusion is everyone’s job. That is why our calendar has an event for everyone. Plan your attendance ahead by visiting the calendar.
Taking Position When It Is Needed

Making a statement is important. Making it at the right time is critical. On Sept. 25, the diversity, equity, and inclusion officers across the Big 12 issued a statement to acknowledge that "emotional and physical exhaustion from racial battle is real" and that the Big 12 institutions "can individually and collectively shine a beacon of hope" in these circumstances. Read more...

Walking Together Toward Social Justice

On Sept. 23, OU Student-athletes and their supporters walked through the Norman campus to demonstrate how they impact social change with all their identities.

To foster a culture of belongingness, students contribute with their athlete and activist identities: each uniquely catalyzes change in the OU community and in society at large, one step at the time.

Pictures from the walk

1921 Tulsa Race Centennial Massacre: How the Present Links the Past With the Future

How do we envision systemic change? During the presentation of the Centennial of the Tulsa Race Massacre on Sept. 24, President Harroz connected present, past, and future. Tomorrow is not better than today if we don't know about our past. Systemic change, therefore, occurs when people know their personal and collective history.

Then, actions can ensue. Belinda Higgs Hyppolite, vice president for diversity, equity, and inclusion, leveraged
history as a springboard to action. Racial tension, injustice, and discrimination still happen, and the ways to overcome them involve struggle.

As the present links past and future, to face today's problems means immersing oneself in history.

*Pictures from the Event*

### 19 Greenwood Rising: A Tragic Past. A Triumphant Future

The OU-Tulsa community has scheduled the first of a series of lunch time, virtual events on the 1921 Tulsa race massacre. The intent is to "fully know the truth of our history" as the "first step in making sure we don't repeat the tragedies of the past."

The series is hosted by Phil Armstrong of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre Centennial Commission. [Read more and register for the event](Tulsa2020.org)

### Statement From CIS Dean Scott Fritzen on Proposed Student Visa Changes

Since July, the OU International Student Response Task Force actively engaged on campus and nationally to address “incredibly unfair, harmful, and unworkable” changes to student visa regulations proposed by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement."

Most recently, the task force chair, Dean Fritzen, announced that the Task Force will submit "comments to the Department of Homeland Security denouncing" a recently proposed rule. In his words: "OU is prepared once again to join other universities in
advocating strongly against any regulatory changes that are opposed to our core values and harmful to our community — a community that will always include our remarkable international students.”

Read more...

Developing a Network of Mentors for Diverse and Underrepresented Researchers

Sharukh Khajotia, associate dean for research in the OU College of Dentistry, and Natasha Mickel, director of the Oklahoma Center for Mentoring Excellence, serve on the national committee that manages the $1.3 million grant from the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research.

Their primary role is to facilitate the training of 10 mentors from across the United States, who in turn will advise 10 early-career researchers over a one-year period. At the end of the five-year funding period, 50 mentors and 50 mentees will be trained forming a network for diverse and underrepresented researchers. Read More...

Picture a Scientist: Women’s Struggles in Academic Science Careers

The Center for Faculty Excellence is partnering with the Provost’s office, the VPRP, the VP for DEI, the Graduate College, the Women’s and Gender Studies Department, and the Gender and Equality Center to provide a free screening of Picture a Scientist, a documentary that focuses on issues at the intersection of gender, race, and academic science careers through the compelling stories of three women scientists who fought for (or are fighting for) greater access and equity in science.

Stream the film for free anytime over the weekend from 6 p.m. Friday, Oct. 23 until 6 p.m. Monday, Oct. 26. Register
for the free screening and you will receive information on how to access the screening.

Register to participate to one or more discussion sessions.

Care about diversity, equity, and inclusion at the University of Oklahoma?
Want to contribute to making OU a better experience for all?
Want to be a catalyst and an active change agent by making sure our campus is open and welcoming to all?
Help create the home away from home experience for others.

DOV Sign-Up Form
The Importance of Giving

Give to the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

The Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion uses donations from people like you to fund grants, sponsorships and scholarships, as well as events and lectures to make the OU community more diverse, equitable and inclusive.

These contributions have helped many in the past, and will continue to do so in the future. For that, and for all types of support,

we thank you!

Donate Here