CALL FOR ABSTRACTS
2018 U of T IDERD Conference

The Anti-Racism & Cultural Diversity Office (ARDO) in collaboration with its partners will host the 2018 IDERD Conference, March 19-20, 2018. Building on the inaugural conference that was held in 2017, this year’s Conference will convene over two days at Hart House on the St. George campus of the University of Toronto. The Conference will address the theme, “Anti-Racism Change in Postsecondary Institutions: Resistance, Assessment, Measurement, and Accountability.”

Postsecondary institutions have a pivotal role to play in advancing a systemic anti-racism agenda. Through the lens of resistance, assessment, measurement, and accountability, the conference will provide a space for attendees to examine the work needed to bring about transformational change and address racialized inequities in the postsecondary institutions. Some guiding questions for the conference include: How do we move from collecting data to using the data to advance systemic change? How can accountability measures be embedded within institutions to promote anti-racism? How are postsecondary institutions paying attention to resistance efforts in order to forge systemic change and, similarly, resistance efforts that are aimed at impeding such change? How can postsecondary institutions contend with racism in cyber technology, social media and right wing movements?

The goals of the conference are to:

- Advance theory, research and practice that will contribute to efforts to advance the elimination of racism.
- Promote dialogue and critical reflection aimed at advancing institutional, systemic and cultural anti-racism change and the role of postsecondary education institutions in that regard.
- Promote dialogue and critical reflection that take into consideration the contemporary contextual realities of the various manifestations of racism (e.g. cyber racism, etc.)

The perspectives should include experiences of diverse racialized persons, groups and populations (including African Canadians, Asian Canadians, Latinx, among others) and Indigenous peoples; intersecting identities (e.g. with considerations given to how race implicates experiences for trans peoples and persons with disabilities, as well as faith, gender, citizenship and other forms of social identification) and in the context of settler colonialism.

The conference will provide an opportunity for academics, researchers, staff, students, community members, youth and activists to examine and engage in discussion, share empirical research and advance theory and practice for tackling racism in our contemporary context and in relation to the following key thematic areas:

1. Indigeneity - Land, Language, Culture and Indigenous Education
2. Institutional Transformation (Culture, Structure, Policy, Governance and Leadership)
3. Student Access, Recruitment, Retention and Graduation (undergraduate and graduate)
4. Human Resources (Recruitment, Hiring, Promotion)
5. Cyber Technology
6. The Relationship between Freedom of Expression, Academic Freedom and Anti-Racism and Equity
7. Activism and Movements (Solidarity, Self-work, Self-care)
8. Emerging racial and ethnic issues pertaining to the postsecondary education context

Submissions:

We invite abstracts for papers, workshops, video and poetry performances, and other artistic forms of activism that address the above goals and themes, which will be selected for presentation at a workshop or poster session. We are particularly open to dialogic forms of presenting information and inviting discussion and exchange of ideas.

Abstracts should not exceed 500 words. Abstracts should explain the topic of your presentation, outline the content of your presentation and highlight key discussion points with attention to the practice implications and/or links to how it will advance anti-racism.

Deadline: All abstracts are due February 17, 2018. Please also submit a short biography (maximum 50 words).

Submissions are welcomed from:

- Scholars
- Researchers
- Teaching faculty
- University and college staff, professionals in all campus activity/service areas including admissions, student life, academic, financial aid, human resources, equity, human rights, alumni
- Students (including undergraduate and graduate students, student leaders)
- Activists
- Artists
- Community members including community based agencies and organizations
- Representatives of provincial and federal ministries, agencies, boards, commissions and foundations

Submission Categories

1. Individual and group paper, presentation, workshop or panel.
2. Individual and group poster(s) for display.
3. Other critical contributions such as arts-based installations and other new media.
4. Roundtable discussion: individual presenter proposes topic and facilitates the discussion.

Submission Guidelines
Proposals must connect to the conference theme and goals and contribute to the advancement of critical race and anti-racism theory, practice, methodology, and/or community organizing.

**Format**

1. Title of Presentation.
2. Thematic Area: Presenters must choose from among the seven (8) thematic areas (listed above) the ONE that most accurately characterizes the focus of their presentation.
3. Presenters’ Information: Name, credentials, institution/company, and brief bio (maximum of 50 words).

**Word Limit**

Abstracts should not exceed 500 words. Presenters should indicate their preference of presentation format of either workshop session or poster session. However, though every effort will be made to honour the presenters’ choice, the IDERD Conference Planning Committee has the final say on presentation format.

**Deadline**

Email your submissions to the U of T IDERD Conference Planning Committee at: antiracism@utoronto.ca by **February 17, 2018**.

Please indicate following in subject line of email submission

2018_IDERD_Abstract_Full Name

Accepted abstracts will be contacted via email by: **March 3, 2018**.

**IDERD Conference: March 19th & 20th, 2018.**

**Questions and Request for Further Information**

Should you have any questions please contact the Anti-Racism & Cultural Diversity Office, University of Toronto at:

Email: antiracism@utoronto.ca; or Tel.: 416.978.1259

Please share widely with your networks.