



Diversity, Inclusion, and Belonging

Transforming the Springfield College Community in Spirit, Mind, and Body

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As the Springfield College community continues to create a more socially just, inclusive, and equitable campus, this online publication will highlight our efforts at addressing issues of difference and marginalization in our community.

Introduction

In fall 2020, President Mary-Beth Cooper, PhD, DM, and Calvin Hill, PhD, vice president for Inclusion and Community Engagement, met with leaders of the four Black student groups on campus to address ways to demonstrate progress towards creating a more inclusive campus with a better climate for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) students. In this issue, three stories on the ways to create a more inclusive campus from that meeting will be shared.

The Addition of a One-credit Course: Deconstructing Racism

BIPOC students expressed the importance of formally teaching about the true history, ideologies, and contemporary struggles against anti-Black racism locally in Springfield, nationally, and globally. In this article, we highlight the new class, Deconstructing Racism, that began this spring semester, and share experiences of some of the participating faculty and students.



[Read more.](#)

The Hiring of a BIPOC



Counselor: Meet Tiffany Benford

BIPOC student representatives expressed the importance of representation on campus, especially in mental health counseling services. With the need for mental health services on the rise, especially on college campuses, BIPOC student representatives expressed that it is essential that students feel comfortable, heard, and understood by the counselor with whom they are working. Through this

Q&A, Nicole Gauthier, assistant director of career advising, student outreach, innovation, and generation, introduces you to Tiffany Benford, the new diversity specialist at the Counseling Center.

[Read more.](#)

Providing Additional Funding for the Office of Multicultural Affairs



While exploring the progress made in response to student demands detailed at the beginning of the academic year, Taylor Alston, community director for the Office of Housing and Residence Life, interviewed Calvin Hill, PhD, vice president for inclusion and community engagement, and Student Trustee and senior Kristian Rhim about the need for more funding for the Office of Multicultural Affairs. Hill acted as operationalist in responding to students' demands and worked closely with Rhim, who helped draft them. Taylor asked them to detail their thoughts about this demand.

[Read more.](#)

Read the full newsletter.

If you have questions or comments, please contact the Office of Student Affairs staff at studentaffairs@springfield.edu.

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