

## For Your Kind Attention

Bernadette S Tiapo <tiapobs@potsgdam.edu>

Mon 6/22/2020 11:09 AM

To: Michael J Popovic <popovimj@potsgdam.edu>

Greetings Michael,

I trust you are doing well.

I know it is summer and I imagine you have made plans and might not entertain adding another thing to your schedules. I am hoping, however, that you will consider being a part of two initiatives to help advance our DEI goals, especially given the ongoing extraordinary circumstances.

Firstly, I am inviting you to join me in facilitating a new series titled *Inclusive Excellence: How Inclusive and Equitable is Your Space?* This new series will explore the definitions of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Race, Racism and Anti-racism in the context of Inclusive Excellence. The series will explore these definitions and their implications at the level of the individual /office, department/division and the institution as a whole. Participants will engage in discussions across all activities – curriculum, co-curriculum, extra curriculum, administrative, department/division policies and procedures, and campus-wide policies and procedures. Sessions will also include short videos, article etc.

The goals of this series will be two-fold:

1. To identify the gaps that exist across campus as it relates to the above mentioned areas.
2. To lay the ground work for campus-wide Anti-Racism training beginning in the fall.

Secondly, I will also be requesting that you work with me to develop an Anti-racism training model that will be specific in addressing our campus's challenges, and which we can start implementing in fall 2020. Once we develop the training, I am hoping we will be able to also nominate/recommend other colleagues to go through a train-the-trainer session to assist with the facilitation going forward.

Please note that I understand that you already have a very full plate, so any time you can dedicate will be greatly appreciated. Please let me know your availability and interest to serve in one or both initiatives as well as your availability for a meeting on Monday, June 29, 2020. Also let me know if there are others I should include in the request. The tentative plan is to schedule the first session of the new series on Wednesday, July 15.

Thanks again,

Bernadette