



March 2021 DEI Digest

Published by the [UI Department of Biology DEI advisory committee](#)

Happy Purim! Below, please see this month's roundup of significant DEI resources, events, and training opportunities.

March DEI Awareness:

- March is [Women's History Month](#).
- March 8 is [International Women's Day](#), established to celebrate women's achievements, raise awareness about women's equality, lobby for accelerated gender parity, and fundraise for [female-focused charities](#).
- March 21 is [World Down Syndrome Day](#). This date was selected to signify the uniqueness of the triplication (trisomy) of the 21st chromosome which causes Down syndrome.

This month's featured DEI resources:

- [Gender Bias Calculator](#): Interactive tool that analyzes letters of recommendation (or any other text) for linguistic gender bias (i.e. female-associated words vs. male-associated words).
- [Ada Hayden: Champion of Iowa Prairies](#) Dr. Hayden was the first woman to get a PhD at Iowa State and a fierce advocate for Iowa's native prairies. Hayden Prairie State Preserve is a 240-acre native tallgrass prairie in northeastern Iowa.

Upcoming DEI Virtual Events:

Events are open to all faculty, staff, graduate and undergraduate students, unless otherwise noted.

- Monday, March 1: Lecture and Q&A: [Dr. Robert Bullard: The Quest for Environmental and Climate Justice](#)
- Wednesday, March 3: Association of American Universities webinar: [The Hard Work of Culture Change](#)
- Thursday, March 4 Striving towards inclusion in academic biology seminar: [The influence of kindness and community in broadening participation](#)
- Tuesday, March 9: [Latinx/a/o Student Support](#): A shared space for Latinx/a/o graduate and undergraduate students to be in community. Held every 2nd Tuesday of the month.
- Thursday, March 11: [UI Latinx Council Monthly "Meet & Eat"](#): open to staff, faculty, and students
- Tuesday, March 16: CLAS Theme Year "Pursuing Racial Justice at the University of Iowa" event: [Professor Vincent Rodgers, Department of Physics & Astronomy; The University of Iowa "The History of Science from a Physicists Perspective"](#)
- Tuesday, March 16: WorldCanvass Expert Panel: [COVID Care for Marginalized and Vulnerable Populations](#)
- Thursday, March 18: Striving towards inclusion in academic biology seminar: [Systemic disadvantages for LGBTQ professionals in STEM](#)
- Saturday, March 20: Screening and discussion hosted by the filmmaker: [Can We Talk?](#) A film series exploring the issue of STEM disciplines of "social belonging" and the effect it has on the lives of underrepresented people of color in, or formerly in, STEM.

Upcoming DEI Virtual Training:

Staff, faculty, and graduate students: Registration for courses listed below can be found in UI Employee Self Service under My Career/My Training. Once there, click on Enroll in Courses tab.

Undergraduates: please email diversity-resources@uiowa.edu to learn more and register for courses listed below.

- Tuesday, March 2: BUILD: [Exploring the Influence of Implicit Bias in Our Work and Lives](#)

- Thursday, March 4: BUILD: [A Closer Look at Race in the US](#)
- Wednesday, March 10: [LGBTQ Safe Zone: Phase 1](#) helps participants develop an appreciation for the experience of LGBTQ people.
- Friday, March 12: BUILD: [For the Long Haul – Increasing Your Stamina While Doing Justice Work](#)
- Wednesday, March 24: BUILD: [Putting It All Together—Strategies for Managing Difficult Conversations](#)
- Tuesday, March 30: BUILD: [Engineering an Intersectionality Lens for Equity and Inclusive Excellence](#)

All faculty, staff, graduate, and undergraduate students are encouraged to share additional DEI resources and events. Send yours to: erin-foster@uiowa.edu.

Membership on the Biology DEI advisory committee is open to undergraduate and graduate students, post-docs, faculty, and staff in the Department of Biology and meets monthly. The Biology DEI advisory committee is actively seeking to broaden the diversity and range of perspectives of our members. Please email Lori Adams (lori-adams@uiowa.edu) to express your interest in joining this committee and to receive a zoom invitation to the next meeting.

Stay connected with Biology DEI on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)!