



division on women and crime
american society of criminology

established 1984

Diversity & Inclusion Committee Meetings (April 8, 2021)

Members: Valli Rajah and Sean Wilson, Co-Chairs

Joan Antunes, Rosemary Barberet, Aneesa Baboolal, Breanna Boppre, Ruth Fleury-Steiner, Janet Garcia-Hallett, Garza, Alondra, Edith Kinney, Barbara Koons, Susan Kunkle, Ramonda Maroun, Susan Miller, Jordana Navarro, Eryn O’Neal, Chioma Onyige, Jane Palmer, Claire Renzetti

Anti-Racist Action Sub-Committee: Jane Palmer, Chair

Allison Foley, Ami Stearns, Bethany Backes, Brittany Martin, Cara Rabe-Hemp, Danielle Slakoff, Edith Kinney, Ellen Cohn, Erin Williams, Eryn O’Neal, Claire Greene, Heidi Bonner, Holly Kennedy, Joan Antunes, Jordana Navarro, Kate Kafonek, Kelsey Kramer, Lisa Melander, Michelle Hughs Miller, Rosemary Barberet, Ruth Fleury-Steiner, Samantha Clinkinbeard, Sarah Rogers, Sean Wilson, Susan Kunkle, Susan Miller, Suzanne Coble, Tara Sutton, Valli Rajah, Venessa Garcia

Over the year, our committee has “met” virtually and over zoom to discuss and execute our activities. We also will meet over the summer to make award decisions.

Committee activities Summary:

The committee has taken on the following activities for this year, including 1) developing a slate of new diversity/inclusion initiatives that the DWC funded; 2) all work associated with the DCW travel awards and the newly created engaged scholar award; 3) conducting DWC diversity and inclusion panels at crimcon and the UN NGO forum; 4) working cooperatively with the anti-racist subcommittee to organize a forum in June. We provide details about each activity below.

DWC Travel Awards

Our committee has been tasked with advertising, evaluating, and selecting winners for the DWC travel awards, including the Claire Renzetti and Aruna Jain travel awards and the Pace Kaur Bahl Travel Grant for Women in Law Enforcement. To date, committee members have helped revise the award calls and set up a protocol to review applications. We will also work to disseminate award information and evaluate applications.

Panels

Our committee organized two panels this year—one for crimcon and one for the UN NGO forum. These *discussions focused on creating Safe Spaces for BIPOC Inside the Classroom and*

Out. Here is an overview of our panel discussions: Research continues to show that overlapping forms of oppression, such as racism and sexism, are intertwined with the everyday experiences of people within the BIPOC community, the LGBTQIA+ community, as well as other marginalized populations. Yet, despite this research, educational institutions have largely not responded to the differential experiences of students not aligning heteronormative Caucasian men. These forms of differential treatment begin early, as research indicates, with a disproportionate number of Black youths being disciplined in schools despite research that shows these decisions are often grounded in educator biasness: this is just one example. To compound this treatment, research also indicates that marginalized students suffer various abuses simply because of who they are: from overt racism to microaggressions like being singled out to "speak for" an entire community of people. These behaviors harm the most vulnerable students and maintain the system of oppression that has kept them at the margins, rather than centering and uplifting their voices. Therefore, in this panel discussion, we will discuss our experiences and provide policy suggestions for improving students' educational experiences from across marginalized groups, but particularly BIPOC students.

Community-engaged scholar award

The Diversity and Inclusion committee asked for funds to initiate a community-engaged scholar award to recognize and celebrate a scholar's accomplishment that often gets overlooked, service, and giving back to their communities. We requested \$2100 over three years. While we hope this award will be ongoing, we asked for funds to cover a three-year inaugural run. Each awardee will receive \$700 for her/his/ their achievements. Having received funds, our committee developed the award call, which we hope will be approved by the Executive Board soon.

D&I Internet newsletter/social media contributor

We asked the DWC to create a new section of its newsletter to specifically highlight a scholar of color whose work helps advance diversity and inclusion in criminal justice/ criminology broadly conceived. We also asked for a small amount of funding to support a D&I member to write this newsletter contribution *and* post the same content on a predetermined number of social media outlets in coordination with the DWC social media committee. Specifically, we asked for \$900 over three years. As above, we hope that the DWC will fund this position on an ongoing basis but currently request financial support for three years. The D&I internet newsletter/social media contributor will receive \$300 each year for her/his/their work. Rimonda Maroun has committed to taking in this work.

Virtual forum on anti-racist / intersectional practice

We requested support for a **virtual forum on anti-racist/intersectional practice** in the field of feminist criminology to be held on **Friday, June 4, 2021**. The purpose of the forum is to enable (virtual) face-to-face preliminary discussions to advance ideas, share resources, learn from one another, and make plans to take action. We will solicit contributions across several topic areas, including research, mentoring, community-based initiatives/partnerships, "the political is personal," "the personal is political," "campus climate," and "DWC and ASC climate." The DWC granted us funds for the forum, and several members of our committee have been working, under Jane Palmer's direction, to organize this event.