THE OFFICE OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES
WITH
RILA, URI GSLIS, AND CORNUCOPIA
PRESENT

EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION SUMMIT

#RIlibrariesEDI
https://olis-ri.libguides.com/edi

AUGUST 7, 2019
9:00AM-4:00PM
UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND
Special thanks to the University of Rhode Island Libraries for use of the space and assistance in coordinating today’s event.

**EVENT PROGRAM**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30AM</td>
<td>Light Breakfast &amp; Networking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00AM</td>
<td>Welcome Karen Mellor</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:15AM</td>
<td>Keynote Loren Spears</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30AM</td>
<td>Implicit Bias Workshop Diversity Talks –</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00PM</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00PM</td>
<td>Panel Discussion Moderated by Cheryl Burell</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:15PM</td>
<td>Next Steps for Action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:45PM</td>
<td>Closing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**KEYNOTE**

"DEI: A NARRAGANSETT PERSPECTIVE"

Loren Spears is not only the executive director of Tomaquag Museum, she is also an educator, activist, author, and Indigenous artist. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Rhode Island in 1989 and master’s degree from the University of New England with a focus on elementary education. She founded the Nuweetooun School affiliated with the Tomaquag Museum (closed in 2010 due to flooding) and was a teacher in Newport public schools for 12 years. A 2017 winner of the Tom Roberts Prize for Creative Achievement in the Humanities from the Rhode Island Council on the Humanities, she was honored for her “compelling work as an advocate of Indigenous People’s history and cultural heritage in preservation, the arts, and education.” In 2010, Spears was named as one of 11 Extraordinary Women honorees for teaching and education.

**DIVERSITY TALKS**

Diversity Talks specializes in providing student-led professional development grounded in diversity, equity, and inclusion. Diversity Talks offers an array of in-person services for schools, colleges and businesses.
PANEL

**Cheryl Burell** is the Associate Director of the State of Rhode Island Office of Diversity, Equity, and Opportunity. The ODEO is a division within the Rhode Island Department of Administration that creates and supports a diverse and inclusive state government culture that values and reflects the changing demographics of Rhode Island by advancing equitable and fair opportunities for all Rhode Island citizens to be employed by and/or do business with the State of Rhode Island.

**Heather Schey** is the Lunch & Learn Coordinator at the Ocean State Center for Independent Living (OSCIL). OSCIL is a non-residential, consumer-driven, community-based, cross-disability, non-profit organization providing independent living services to enhance, through self-direction, the quality of life for persons with disability and to promote integration into the community. [www.oscil.org](http://www.oscil.org)

**Logan England** is the Pediatric Navigator with the Thundermist Health Center Trans* Access Health Team. The Trans* Health Access Team is a group of medical, behavioral, and allied service professionals working to improve access to culturally and clinically competent healthcare for the trans* community. [www.thundermisthealth.org/Services/TransHealthAccess](http://www.thundermisthealth.org/Services/TransHealthAccess)

**Loren Spears** is the Executive Director of the Tomaquag Museum. The Tomaquag Museum educates the public and promotes thoughtful dialogue regarding Indigenous history, culture, arts, and Mother Earth and connects to Native issues of today. [www.tomaquagmuseum.org](http://www.tomaquagmuseum.org)

**Marta Martínez** is the Executive Director of Rhode Island Latino Arts. Rhode Island Latino Arts is Rhode Island’s leading non-profit organization exclusively dedicated to the promotion, advancement, development, and cultivation of Latino arts. [www.rilatinoarts.org](http://www.rilatinoarts.org)

**Omar Bah** is the Founder and Executive Director of the Refugee Dream Center. The Refugee Dream Center is a post resettlement refugee agency offering services that target gaps within the refugee community by ensuring continuation of services in their efforts towards self-sufficiency and integration. [www.refugeedreamcenter.org](http://www.refugeedreamcenter.org)
“Equity” takes difference into account to ensure a fair process and, ultimately, a fair outcome. Equity recognizes that some groups were (and are) disadvantaged in accessing educational and employment opportunities and are, therefore, underrepresented or marginalized in many organizations and institutions. Equity, therefore, means increasing diversity by ameliorating conditions of disadvantaged groups.

“Diversity” can be defined as the sum of the ways that people are both alike and different. When we recognize, value, and embrace diversity, we are recognizing, valuing, and embracing the uniqueness of each individual.

“Inclusion” means an environment in which all individuals are treated fairly and respectfully; are valued for their distinctive skills, experiences, and perspectives; have equal access to resources and opportunities; and can contribute fully to the organization’s success.

- American Library Association, “Equity, Diversity, Inclusion: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights”
  www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill/interpretations/EDI

PLANNING COMMITTEE
Beatrice Pulliam          Peter Larsen          Alicia Waters
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