USC Race and Equity Center

EQUITY INSTITUTES TESTIMONIES

USC's Equity Institute model inspired important racial equity discussions and moved the learning meter on equity related topics for participants on our campus. The equity-based learning modules offered innovative approaches to inclusion and diversity organizational learning and were presented with clarity and depth by content experts and leaders in higher education. Faculty and administrators gained insight from instructors, while discussing and engaging relevant topics and scenarios with colleagues in real time.

The USC Equity Institute is an impactful modern strategy for any Chief Diversity Officer or institution seeking to provide high-quality, rich content, equity-focused learning for faculty and administrator leaders on campus.



Dr. Taffye Benson Clayton Vice President and Associate Provost/CDO Auburn University

As the inaugural chief diversity officer, I turned to the USC Equity Institutes, for I believe that it would help our institution create solutions to the opportunity areas we as a community identified as needing action. We found our experience to be extremely beneficial in learning more about ourselves and how we can best serve our institution. The lessons learned have been valuable more than ever as we now begin the creation of our college's first Diversity Strategic Plan and the tools needed to complete this task have been sharpened due to the USC Equity Institute.

Scott J. Blair, M.Ed. Chief Diversity Officer and Title IX Coordinator Northampton Community College



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The USC Equity Institute was critical for us on the heels of August 2017 and the one year anniversary of the same. The program allowed us to bring the three local law enforcement agency leadership teams together along with faculty from UVA. The work we did in the program was emotional, perspective changing, and helped us steer a culture change within our teams. We are getting ready to begin work on our Race Equity Project along with the support of faculty and researchers here at UVA.

Gloria Graham

Associate Vice-President for Safety and Security University of Virginia

The USC Equity Institute assisted in message elevation and translation of institutional inclusion, equity and diversity initiatives. The activities, and those involved, brought visibility to micro and macro interactions where race is a factor in individual and institutional success.

Dr. Malika Carter Chief Diversity Officer SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry Participating in the USC Race and Equity Institute has pushed our institution to develop a more nuanced understanding of the field of racial inequity studies. The Institute helped participants think through the intersectionality of inequity, as well as the ways that inequity can be embedded in institutional policies, procedures and practices. Perhaps more importantly, the Institute's design, which urges participants to collaborate on actions steps to address inequity, has sharpened our understanding of the value of partnerships when leveraging opportunities for institutional change.



Dr. Amoaba Gooden Chair and Associate Professor Department of Pan-African Studies Kent State University

The USC Equity Institute provided the opportunity to create a brave space to do some deep learning about issues of race and equity. As a leadership team, we had difficult conversations, strengthened our racial literacy, and solidified our commitment to eliminating racial equity gaps at Long Beach City College. The institute workshops were highly effective in providing us with common language and purpose as we designed our equity projects. Our participation in the USC Equity Institute provided the momentum to integrate racial equity into our college-wide planning process and governance structures. Personally, I feel reinvigorated and more resolute in leading racial equity work on my campus.

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Dr. Mike Muñoz

Vice President, Student Services Long Beach City College