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The University of Akron

Rethinking Race

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Face-2-Face Conversations

Monday, Feb. 1

Noon - 1:30 p.m. in Student Union 308

F2F: Race and Health: The Infant Death Crisis in Our Community

Presented by Greta Lax

2-3:30 p.m. in Student Union 310

F2F: Viewing globally and acting locally—to promote community health

Presented by Baomei Zhao

Tuesday, Feb. 2

3:30 - 5 p.m. in SU 310

F2F: Islam, Law and Politics

Today, the negative perceptions and anti-Islamic sentiments have been widely present and affecting many in our community. Please join us in better understanding Islam and battling the negative perceptions of Islam through fostering interfaith relationships and education on our campus.

Wednesday, Feb. 3

4-5:30 p.m. in SU 310

F2F: What does America stand for?

An open dialog on race relations with collage art work and poetry reading. "The road to freedoms promise."

5:30-7 p.m. in Mary Gladwin Hall 301/305

F2F: Does your health care provider consider race and culture in planning your care?

Presented by Carolyn Sutter DNP CNP

Thursday, Feb. 4

4-5 p.m. in Student Union 335

F2F: Achieving Global Competency: Tips, Tricks & Traps

Presented by Greg Ladewski

Mr. Gregory B. Ladewski. Esq is Chief Operating Officer of The Stratus Group Inc. providing workshops, climate surveys and diversity audits to universities, law firms and hospitals. After receiving his J.D, (Magna Cum Laude), from the University of Michigan, he practiced discrimination, employment and education law for 25 years. Previously he had been a speechwriter, voice and media coach, and high school teacher in Washington, D.C. Mr. Ladewski continues to wear many hats in his career. Please join us for this special session.

Friday, Feb. 5

2-3:30 p.m.in SU 308/314

F2F: Race and Political Advertising

Presented by Stephen Brooks

Campaign ads for the 2016 election have contained many racial messages. Come discuss the impact they have on you and how you think they shape the election.

5:30-7 p.m. in Bierce 154

F2F: Am I Racist?

Presented by Amber Sylvan

An interactive and audience driven discussion on race and the media. Awareness will be

raised on issues of racism and oppression in a way that leaves participants educated.

Monday, Feb. 8

1-2:30 p.m. in SU 314

F2F: How to Talk About Race When It's Impossible

Do you avoid sharing your opinion about race, or getting involved in a discussion on race issues? Have you had a bad experience talking about race? Law professor Brant Lee will share a few thoughts about why that happens, and then facilitate an open dialogue.

Tuesday, Feb. 9

10-11:30 a.m. in Bierce Library 154

F2F: Mascot Madness: The Abstract Racism of Indigenous-Based Sports Mascots

Presented by Aimee deChambeau

Resources: See the LibGuide (<http://libguides.uakron.edu/mascotmadness>)

This open discussion will concentrate on the symbolic, abstract racism of Indigenous-based team names and mascots. We will explore how unauthentic representations of Native American peoples and cultures perpetuate a distorted mythology that can render racism against Native Americans invisible.

3 - 4:30 p.m. in Student Union 310

F2F: Race and Health: The Infant Death Crisis in Our Community

Presented by Greta Lax

Ohio has the largest racial disparity for infant death in the nation, ranking 48th out of 50 states. . Join us for a conversation about how to address infant mortality as a community. A College of Health Professions, Akron-Region Interprofessional AHEC, and Summit County Public Health, Office of Minority Health collaborative event.

Wednesday, Feb. 10

1-2:30 p.m. in Bierce Library 154

F2F: Are you ready for 2040?

Presented by Amy Shrivr Dreussi

Demographers predict that around 2040 the United States will become a "majority minority" nation, meaning that the majority of the nation's populations will be of minority race and whites will be in the minority. Let's talk about how that change is going to impact us and our national institutions.

4 - 5:30 p.m. in Student Union Theatre

F2F: Reclaiming CommUnity: The Role of Activism

Facilitated by Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., Beta Beta Chapter and P.R.I.D.E. Research Lab

This workshop will provide participants a historical and contemporary overview of activism in the Black community, with a special focus on the Black Lives Matter movement. Participants will have the opportunity to discuss their perspectives on the relationship between activism and racial justice.

This event is cancelled

5:30 - 7 p.m. in Student Union 310

F2F: Anti-racist Parenting: Possibilities, Responsibilities, and Resources

Facilitated by Jodi A. Henderson-Ross

This F2F conversation will explore the possibilities of intentionally applying anti-racist practices to parenting, ask questions about the responsibilities of and for such practices and share ideas for resources to support such efforts.

Thursday, Feb. 11

Noon - 1:30 p.m. in Student Union 310

F2F: Helping a White Guy with The Talk

Facilitated by Stephen Brooks

A discussion about what 'the talk' is about and why it is needed.

5 - 6:30 p.m. in Bierce Library 154

F2F: The International Factor: Trail-blazing the route from Akron to Paris

After a record-breaking run as a basketball player at The University of Akron, a Canton native becomes a professional athlete, garnering 3 MVP titles and 4 national championships. As an African-American male, he discusses how race and culture affected his experiences abroad.

Friday, Feb. 12

1 - 2:30 p.m. in Bierce Library 154

F2F: Lets Talk about the police

Presented by Christian Howse

In recent history law enforcement has been in the spotlight but not in a positive way. Let's talk about the police and the use of force with minorities.

What are Face-2-Face conversations?

Face-2-Face (F2F) conversations are discussions dealing with race and racial conflict. Because race is a sensitive and controversial topic, F2F conversations provide a forum for interesting, **illuminating** and **real conversation**—student to student—without reinforcing **tired stereotypes**, amplifying hostility, or spreading more misinformation about the very real and complex racial conflicts playing out in America today.



The hope is that participants are ready to **move outside their comfort zones**, ready to examine implicit assumptions and thoughtfully challenge those of others. Even more basic, participants should be willing to listen without interruption, to someone expressing a view that you may not initially agree with, or may not fully understand; to let others tell their story and be heard with the same patience and attentiveness and respect others will demonstrate when you share your thoughts or concerns.

Everyone should **be prepared to speak honestly, openly, and with decency and**

respect; to think critically about what is being said and heard; to try to place yourself in the position of those speaking, to feel what it might be like to walk a mile in their shoes so that you might better understand how the speaker came to hold the views that they are sharing. And for those who really want to learn something, there must be a willingness to **expand consciousness** about an uncomfortable and divisive subject, a topic that cannot be discussed without facing the very real pain and hurt and harm central to racial conflict, and to share an aspiration as old as America itself, that we might find ways to work together with everyone in the group toward **justice, reconciliation, and redemption**.

The conversations are held in a casual setting that encourages open conversation. There are no formal rules or format to a F2F conversation; it simply begins with a facilitator or moderator making a few opening statements, reading a selected passage, or posing a question, and then encouraging participants to **join the conversation**.