Cultural Proficiencies for Racial Equity:

Information Session

February 23rd at 2:00 P.M. CST

Open Forum - Public Libraries
During this session we will:

- Share the background of the CPRE project.
- Detail and discuss the project timeline.
- Review the Framework Development process.
- Talk about expected outcomes of the framework.
- Discuss next steps & how / where to share your feedback.
Meet your presenters...

Christina Fuller-Gregory (she/her)
Assistant Director of Libraries
S.C. Governor’s School for the Arts & Humanities

Mark Puente (he/him)
Associate Dean for Organizational Development, Inclusion and Diversity
Purdue University
1. Framework

Origin

Story
It started with the seeds of an idea, and a recognized need for action...

The Racial Equity framework was the brainchild of Mark Puente.
  - Initial engagement was between ARL and ODLOS
  - Nexus Framework on Leadership Development
  - Presented to the executive directors of ARL, ACRL, and PLA

Why start with Racial Equity?
  - EDI programs across institutions already exist
  - Racial inequity is a recognized area of concern in Libraries and the field of librarianship.
Building a Task Force

The CPRE Task Force was...

- Led by Mark Puente (ARL) and Kristin Lahurd (ODLOS)

- Formed through a call for applications that was thoughtfully created with consideration of applicants representing diversity in race, sector, gender, geography, LIS education, etc.

- Met with overwhelming response from interested participants representing:
  - Research Universities
  - Liberal arts colleges
  - Public Libraries
Framing the Mission: The Building Cultural Proficiencies for Racial Equity framework will serve as a foundational resource to help public and academic libraries build inclusive cultures, within libraries and their broader communities, through guidelines on the development and implementation of organizational policies and professional practices that support diverse libraries with a diverse workforce.
2. The Process
Original Timeline

- Task Force Formed
- Virtual meetings
- Virtual meetings
- Interim Report
- First draft available for review

Post-Covid Timeline:
- Framework draft complete in August 2021.
- First draft available for review - January 2022
Developing Working Groups

- Survey
  Est. Spring 2020

- Data & Competencies
  Est. Spring 2020

- Glossary
  Est. Spring 2020

- Framework
  Est. Spring 2020
Survey Group

- Developed and distributed a field-wide survey on racial equity to people who work in libraries.
- Questions including:
  - Demographics
  - Knowledge of racial equity
  - Work climate related to racial equity
  - Institutions addressing racial equity
- Acknowledgement of the effect of COVID-19 on racial equity.
Glossary Group

- Developed and compiled the glossary terms referenced alongside the framework, intermediary resources, or public facing resources.
- Introduced definitions/terms identified by task force members for inclusion in the framework.
Data & Competencies

- Built a dataset of existing frameworks (core principles, training curricula, learning outcomes) to help the Task Force identify existing training, education, and competency methodologies.

- Explored identified frameworks (across the US & Canada) from a range of organizations (libraries, higher education, non-profits, governmental, consultants, etc) to see how they might inform the CPRE framework.

- Mined text to identify list of terms, themes, phrases, to analyze.
3. Framework Development Process
Framework Development

Tasked with the drafting of a formalized framework informed by the foundational work completed by the Survey and Data and Competencies working groups.
Developing a Framework Outline

• Consistent weekly meetings to define and refine the scope of the framework

• Real time, iterative outlining and brainstorming process (mind mapping)

• Led by a cross-sector approach to understanding and addressing the impact of racism and racial inequity one the LIS profession.
The Framework is...

Not a liberatory practice... but the grounding needed to effect change in thinking, behavior, and practice that will lead to better outcomes for racialized and minoritized populations.
Introducing the Four Frames

1. Addressing and Interrogating How White Supremacy, White Privilege and Racism Show Up in Libraries
2. Accountability, Assessment, and Implementation
3. Building Cross-Sector Cultural Proficiency—Influencing and Affecting Change in Other Professional, Civic, Political Spheres.
4. Antiracist Leadership
"As Library workers, our foundational growth is supported by an ability to identify and acknowledge ways in which whiteness and white supremacy have impacted the field of librarianship."

1. Understanding Historical Inequities
2. Methodologies for Self Assessment - Fundamental (Adjacent to Historical Inequities)
3. Libraries & Racial Equity
4. The Language of Racial Equity & White Supremacy
5. The Competency Continuum

Four Competencies:

- Awareness of Racial Identity
  - Race as a Social Construct
  - BIPOC-specific Emotional Labor
- Commitment to Countering Racism
  - Group-based power inequality
- Analysis of Racialized Outcomes
  - Comfort with discomfort
- Historical trajectory of racial oppression
- Individual & Systems-based Implicit Bias
- Associated Patterns of Behavior
  - Determining factors of the Four Competencies

Intersection Principles:
Ways in which the Four Competencies inform and impact one another

Figure 1: Four Competencies Venn Diagram
"Strategic planning must articulate the development, implementation, iteration, and measurement of changes to policies, procedures, and behaviors that specifically address racial equity."

Accountability, Assessment, and Implementation

- Antiracist Objectives & Strategies for Libraries
- Hiring, Retention & Advancement
- Strategic Planning
- Policies, Procedures, and Norms
- Sharing the Work: BIPOC Communities & Allies
- Accountability in Racial Equity Work
- Solidarity & librarianship
- Power relationships within the field
"Libraries, archives, museums, and other cultural heritage organizations do not operate in a vacuum, or in silos. They are inextricably connected to communities whether neighborhoods, schools, colleges and universities, corporations, civic entities and beyond."

Building Cross-Sector Cultural Proficiency—Influencing and Affecting Change in Other Professional, Civic, Political Spheres.

- Civic
- Information
- Corporations
"Antiracist leadership acknowledges the degree to which white supremacy culture is embedded in every aspect of our profession, and works deliberately and constructively to question dominant cultural norms and counter them when they are negatively impacting or harming communities of color."
Project Highlights & Expected Outcomes
Utilizing the Framework in Public Libraries will...

- Support the initiatives of PLA’s EDISJ Committee
- Encourage deeper reflection and bolster support for sustaining/developing formalized library initiatives in support of EDISJ (i.e. internal EDISJ committees, task forces)
- Develop and introduce a shared lexicon and language around equity, diversity, inclusion, and social justice
- Inform and support the development of strategic plans that lead with an equity lens.
- Move libraries beyond existing professional silos encourage opportunities for greater communication, collaboration, conversation, and engagement
- Introduce concepts that will encourage conversation and reflection around how equity, diversity, inclusion, and social justice impact every touchpoint in our libraries.
We support these objectives by...

- Ensuring that the framework, in its design is comprehensive and provides relevant and timely use cases.
- Actively seeking and including the perspectives of both BIPOC LIS workers and LIS workers.
- Understanding that racial equity work is ongoing and continually evolving.
- Encouraging and supporting the work of LIS workers—whether they have experienced racial inequity, are in the infancy of understanding EDISJ, or are acting as strong allies/accomplices in supporting the forward movement of concepts introduced in the framework.
Next steps & coming soon

- Continue the public comment period (ending March 2\textsuperscript{nd})
- Finalize Framework
- Seek approval and adoption of the framework from sponsoring organizations & their Boards.
- The framework addresses previous standards, specifically the 2012 ACRL Diversity Standards: Cultural Competency for Academic Libraries, and must through ACRL’s standards process.
- ARL DEI Institute supported by an IMLS grant and the Task Force includes ACRL & ODLOS. Part of its work includes exploring ways to translate the CPRE Framework into education and action for individuals working in memory and information organizations and institutions.
We need your feedback.

Share your feedback in two ways.

Visit:
https://acrl.ala.org/RacialEquityFramework/

or

Scan this QR code to go directly to the site.
Thank you!

We want to hear from you

Scan code now to register for CommentPress!

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