

LOOKING IN THE MIRROR

JOIN US FOR CONVERSATIONS THAT WILL HELP US HEAL AND GROW

As quoted in former UMBC President Freeman Hrabowski's book, *The Empowered University* (2019), "as a healthy campus, we must look in the mirror and be honest with ourselves" (p. 234). The spirit of shared leadership, culture change, and academic success continues to guide this second year of the "Looking in the Mirror" series. The organizers seek to provide faculty and staff opportunities to engage and voice your opinions about pivotal topics that shape our future as a university and our individual growth.

Social-economic Diversity and Holistic Critical Mentoring

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH, 12NOON-1PM

This workshop will explore ways that holistic critical mentorship can challenge the institutional norms of higher education (e.g. the "hidden curriculum") that often alienate first-generation college students or members of historically excluded groups (e.g. low-income/working-class communities).

Speaker: Michael Hunt, Program Director, McNair Scholars Program and Language, Literacy & Culture doctoral student

A Conversation on Xenophobia: Past and Present

FRIDAY, MARCH 10TH, 12NOON-1PM

Xenophobia, or fear of the foreigner, has intensified in recent years in America, as seen, for example, through the increased anti-Asian sentiments under COVID-19. This conversation will reflect on the historical and contemporary forces that inform the discrimination against people of Asian descent as "perpetual foreigners." Connecting the (often erased) Asian American experience to broader discussions of (im)migration and globalization, we will also explore helpful ways to challenge xenophobia and remedy its impact on mental health and well-being through artistic, scientific, and media practices.

Speakers: Irene Chan, Associate Professor, Dept. of Visual Arts, Charissa Cheah, Professor, Dept. of Psychology, and Fan Yang, Associate Professor, Dept. of Media and Communication Studies

Embracing Neurodiversity

FRIDAY, APRIL 21ST, 12NOON-1PM

The COVID pandemic and its collective effects on mental health have brought the concept of neurodiversity to the attention of people outside the disability activist communities where it originated. In this workshop, we will explore ways that UMBC can acknowledge and celebrate neurodiversity among faculty, students, and staff. Participants will be asked to consider how they can foster pedagogical and workplace practices that enable the full participation of people with differences in cognition and social behavior as well as those with experiences of distress and trauma—including many of us and our peers.

Speaker: Drew Holladay, Assistant Professor, Dept. of English



Sponsored by: College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences (CAHSS)

FLYER DESIGNED BY MCS STUDENT FIONA ROWAN

Questions? Please contact Fan Yang, Associate Professor, Dept. of Media and Communication Studies, at fanyang@umbc.edu