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## ANNOUNCEMENT

# TEMPLE UNIVERSITY COMMITS MORE THAN \$1 MILLION TO COMBAT RACISM

Posted Sep 16, 2020

Racism in the United States remains a persistent and urgent problem, stunting opportunity for children and families and cutting lives distressingly short.


This summer we asked Valerie Harrison, Senior Advisor for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, to oversee an effort to identify new ways our university can build on its long-standing effort to combat racism on our campus, in our city and in society at large, and to provide better pathways to opportunity for children in our local community.

Based on that effort, we are announcing more than \$1 million in new funding that Temple University will spend this year to support anti-racism education and programming. The following are highlights of our ongoing effort.


### 1. Reinvesting in anti-racism education

Temple is an international leader in anti-racism education as home to the prestigious department of Africology and African American Studies, the first department in the United States to offer a doctoral program in the field more than 30 years ago. Today, department Chair, Dr. Molefi K. Asante, our faculty and our doctoral graduates are

On the heels of Temple's announcement to commit more than \$1 million to combat racism, and as an extension of the MarComm team's local storytelling and outreach efforts to date, 160over90 executed a quick-turn and targeted national media relations campaign.



The agency leaned on existing press materials [including the Temple Now news release] to inform pitching, and sought out meaningful opportunities for anti-racism thought leadership and expert source positioning in higher ed verticals and national mainstream outlets.



Resulting coverage showcases Temple's demonstrated investment in anti-racism education and programming—rising to the challenges of this particular moment in history, and naturally building on the University's core values and history of leadership on this topic.

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8 ways one university is investing in anti-racism


Temple University is updating its curriculum and funding more anti-racism training

By: [Matt Zalaznick](#) | November 2, 2020




Temple University will prioritize the recruitment of more diverse faculty as part of a \$1 million antiracism initiative.


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## Temple devotes \$1M-plus to create anti-racism center, hire more African American studies faculty

BRITTANY SLAUGHTER - LIBERTY UNIVERSITY • NOVEMBER 2, 2020

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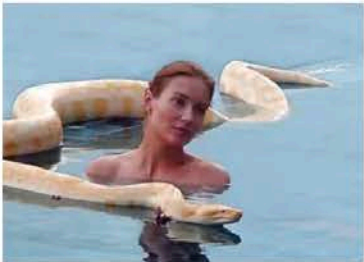
As racial conversations, protests and riots began erupting around the country, some colleges and universities decided to take their campus to new levels with conversations on race. Temple University joined the initiative and created an “Anti-Racism Education and Training” initiative.

The university will add four more faculty members to their Department of Africology and African American Studies in addition to creating a “Center for Anti-Racism Research,” according to a university news release.

The Philadelphia-based public university will invest more than \$1 million into the efforts and more, officials state.



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Temple University Plans to Put \$1M Toward Antiracist Education

November 4, 2020 | :

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by Sara Weissman

Print


This fall, Temple University pledged to put a million dollars toward antiracist education and programming in the wake of this summer’s Black Lives Matter protests.

“Racism continues to operate in every facet of the lives of Black people today – in education, employment, healthcare, policing ...,” said Dr. Valerie Harrison, senior advisor for equity, diversity and inclusion at Temple. “There are countless opportunities to really effect change. So, what we did is we asked ourselves, how will we allocate our resources and focus? How do we leverage our strengths? What areas are we really best equipped to impact?”

The funds will also partly go toward a new center for antiracism research and an expansion of the Africology and African American studies department, hiring four new faculty.

Africology and African American studies department chair, Dr. Molefi Kete Asante, sees the university’s investment as a “down payment on a long-term commitment to the idea that African American studies [program] is not only a legitimate field of research and teaching but a necessary one for a society such as ours.”

His department was the first to grant doctoral degrees in its field, with famous graduates like Dr. Ibram X. Kendi, the author of *How to Be an Antiracist*. But since the 1990s, the



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SmartBrief for the Higher Ed Leader <highered@smartbrief.com>

Thursday, November 5, 2020 at 4:58 PM

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Antiracism research the focus of \$1M Temple U. plan

A new center for antiracism research, new faculty in the departments of Africology and African American studies, and diversity training for faculty search committees are among the plans for a \$1 million investment at Temple University this fall. "Ten years from now, two years from now, it's my hope that we can say that we responded to this moment and we responded to this opportunity in a way that closed the opportunity gap and moved us closer to racial equity," said Valerie Harrison, the school's senior advisor for equity, diversity and inclusion.**Full Story:** [Diverse: Issues In Higher Education](#) (11/4)

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Coastal Carolina U. no longer accepting \$95M gift

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# Valerie Harrison of Temple University: 5 Steps We Must Take To Truly Create An Inclusive, Representative, and Equitable Society



Parveen Panwar, Mr. Activated

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Nov 10, 2020 · 9 min read





COMMUNITY // November 14, 2020

# 5 Steps We Must Take To Truly Create An Inclusive, Representative, and Equitable Society

*The first step is to reject this false notion that one group of people is superior to another that has been used for centuries to justify unequal treatment. As part of our series about '5 Steps We Must Take To Truly Create An Inclusive, Representative, and Equitable Society' I had the pleasure to interview Valerie [...]*

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By [Parveen Panwar, Mr. Activated](#)



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