



# SPECIAL PRESIDENTIAL TASK FORCE ON RACIAL JUSTICE

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## Full Membership Meeting 11

Friday, April 2, 2021

*For there is always light, if only we're brave enough to see it.  
If only we're brave enough to be it.*

*-National Youth Poet Laureate Amanda Gorman, 1.20.2021*

# Today's Agenda

## Welcome

*Mary Grant*

## Opening Remarks

*Davede Alexander*

## Subcommittee Findings & Suggested Recommendations

*Jakari Griffith and Sydné Marrow*

## Small Group Conversations – Breakout Groups

*All*

## Large Group Report Back

*Jakari Griffith*

## Reflections & Closing Remarks

*Carolyn Petrosino, Mary Grant*

*“Democracy is not a state. It is an act, and each generation must do its part to help build what we called the beloved community, a nation and a world society at peace with itself*

*-Congressman John Lewis*

### ***Charge from President Clark:***

- The Special Presidential Task Force on Racial Justice is charged first and foremost to listen carefully to our campus community.
- The Task Force will initiate sometimes difficult conversations across the university, learn from the experiences of students and employees of color on our campus, understand our opportunities for improvement as a university and research/identify wise practices to help us do better.
- Ultimately, the Task Force is charged with developing a set of action-oriented recommendations to direct our efforts in building, as Lewis said, the Beloved Community on our campus.

### ***Charge (continued):***

- The Task Force is in no way intended to displace or subsume the many activities and initiatives already occurring at BSU to advance racial and social justice and promote equity; this important work will continue and will also help to inform the work of the Task Force.
- Davede, Mary and Carolyn have all reminded me that the work of the Task Force will be tough, but nothing worth doing is ever easy. Carolyn also cautioned me that this important issue “is not a Black problem, it is an American problem.” She is, of course, absolutely right and it will take every member of our BSU community, no matter our race, ethnicity or identity, to make real change in eradicating the scourge of racism and the threat of implicit bias. The opportunity in front of all of us is to fulfill the mission and deliver on the promise of BSU by taking a hard look at who we are and how we approach that mission.
- In solidarity, let us begin by once again affirming that Black Lives Matter, by denouncing racism and bigotry in all their explicit and implicit manifestations, and by re-committing ourselves to bold action that put into practice our values of diversity, inclusion and equality for all.

## Subcommittee Findings & Suggested Recommendations

Please capture your reaction to what you are hearing during each presentation:

- What findings surprise you?
- Which recommendations resonate with you and are hopeful?
- Is there anything you are surprised you did not hear?

*You will be asked to share your observations in breakout groups, and via email after the meeting.*

# RJTF Subcommittees

It is the mission of the RJTF to (1) determine what elements in organizational policies, practices, or cultural dynamics impede racial equity at Bridgewater State University and (2) offer remedies and recommendations for corrective action.

1. Curricula and Co-Curricula
2. BSU Workforce
3. Education, Training, and Continued Learning Opportunities for Faculty, Staff, and Students
4. Investing in and Supporting Students
5. Police and Public Safety
6. Creating a Place for Ongoing Support, Problem Solving, Reporting Resolution, and Response

# Small Group Breakout Sessions

## Discussion prompts

- What findings surprise you?
- Which recommendations resonate with you and are hopeful?
- Is there anything you are surprised you did not hear?



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