Dr. Marisela Martinez-Cola Utah State University

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- How can students who live in predominately white neighborhoods learn to care about the experiences of Black/people of color if they never had a personal connection with any of them?
- How can people learn about race if they come from a household that doesn't care/know much about the experiences of BIPOC in the first place?
- How can white faculty be part of the change in higher education attitude toward teaching Black history and centering the Black experiences in classes other than race/ethnicity-based ones?
- We often see people of color tasked to do diversity-related work, lead racial discussion, give talks on racial issues, etc. o What do you think of this tendency? Should they continue to do that because they are the most qualified, or are we asking them to solve a problem that was created by the white man?
- Do you think universities should mandate a class on racial issues for all students?
 - o If so, what are the pros and cons of that?
- People who attend talks like yours are usually the ones who already care about racial issues. How do you think we can reach those who won't voluntarily attend such talks?
 - o Do you think we should try to reach them?
- What do you think universities—especially the historically white ones—should do to engage with students of color who usually go unnoticed, without tokenizing them?
- Given the political tension that we are living in these days, why do you think it's important to engage with and discuss racial issues? (beyond the individual level)
- Symposiums that are focused on inclusion are a good start for creating awareness around racial issues in this country. What else do you think needs to be done to raise awareness?
- After putting all those efforts to creating and spreading awareness around racial issues, what are the next steps that need to be done?

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