



IB DEIA Committee Newsletter

February 2021

What you'll find in this month's newsletter:

Committee News, OBA DEIA Seminar Series, Spotlight: Interviews in 2021, 'Are you on these listservs?', DEIA Events around the BSD and Beyond

Committee News

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend the last OBA-all meeting! As a committee that has been nominated to serve the needs of our IB community, being able to receive feedback from you all is central to our mission. Please know that all suggestions and comments are taken to heart, and we are trying to address them in as timely a manner as we can. But, it's important to remember that large-scale culture shifts take time, and we are grateful for your patience through this process.

Some things we are happy to share with y'all:

- The **diversity statement** that faculty and students have been working on together is **published!** You can check it out on the IB Program Website [here](#).
- The committee now has **office hours**: the last Monday of the month (2/22, 3/29, 4/26, and so on) from 3 – 4 PM via this [Recurring Zoom Link](#) (There will be a waiting room for OH, so we can listen to comments and suggestions one at a time)

Lastly, save the date for the **next OBA-all Meeting: Monday, March 22nd at 11 AM** (zoom link and agenda to come)

OBA DEIA Seminar Series

We are excited to announce that we will be hosting [Angela Saini](#), author of *Superior: The Return of Race Science*, for a future installment of the seminar series. She will be speaking with us on **Tuesday, March 9th at 10 am (CST)**, so put it in your calendars! During our “Chat with an Author”, attendees will have the opportunity to ask Angela questions and contribute to a lively discussion about the history and continued racism in western science. This event is Q+A style, but feel free to come and simply listen. For those looking to engage with this subject before the event, we recommend reading her book *Superior*. The book can be found at the [Seminary Co-op](#), on [Amazon](#), from [Barnes and Noble](#), and wherever else books are sold!

Biography

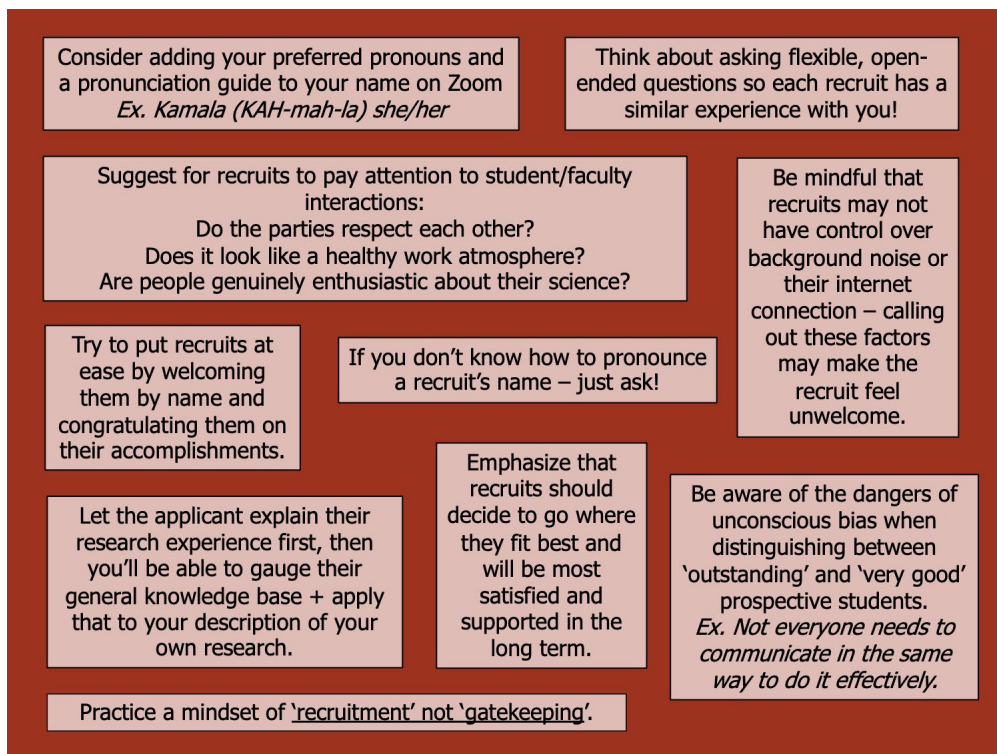
Angela Saini is an award-winning British science journalist and broadcaster. She presents science programmes on the BBC, and her writing has appeared in *New Scientist*, *The Sunday Times*, *National Geographic* and *Wired*. Her latest book, *Superior: the Return of Race Science*, was a finalist for the LA Times Book Prize and named a book of the year by *The Telegraph*, *Nature* and *Financial Times*. Her previous book, *Inferior: How Science Got Women Wrong*, has been translated into thirteen languages. Angela has a Masters in Engineering from the University of Oxford and was a Fellow at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

If you have any suggestions for speakers you'd like to see or people you want to recommend for the seminar series, please contact [Vish](#), [Kelsey](#), and [Rossey](#).

Spotlight: Interviews in 2021!

As we're all well aware, interviews for the program are going to look a little different this year, and even in 'normal times' interviews stir-up a lot of stress in all of us. Add in an ongoing pandemic and the always present possibility of technological issues, and it becomes clear that we may need to be a bit more mindful of these external circumstances and be understanding when it comes to any hiccups in the interview programming.

That being said, here are some 'tips and tricks' gathered from current students in the program and from the [PIBS Guide to Effective and Inclusive Remote Interviews for PhD Admissions](#):



'Are you on these listservs?'

Yes, our inboxes are more full than ever, but sometimes there are really interesting events that don't make it into the monthly newsletter! Subscribe to these mailing lists to stay up to date with diversity & inclusion events around campus and to learn more about access initiatives for members of the campus community with disabilities:

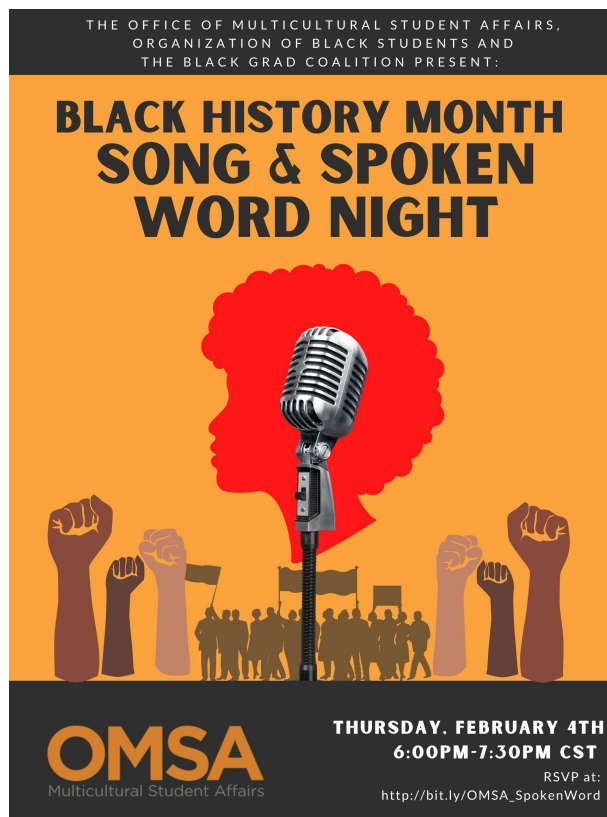
[Diversity & Inclusion Office Mailing List](#) + [Events](#)

[Access UChicago Now \(AUN\) Website](#) + [Listserv](#)

DEIA Events around the BSD and Beyond

Below you'll find flyers and information for the various DEIA related events happening (virtually) around campus:

Black History Month Song and Spoken Work Night – Feb 4th at 6 PM



“Join OMSA, OBS, and the Black Grad Coalition for a fun and inspirational night of celebrating Black talent. Black history and culture has been shaped and strengthened by its beautiful traditions of song and the spoken word. From Martin Luther King Jr., James Baldwin, & Toni Morrison, to Aretha Franklin, Nina Simone, and James Brown, the far-reaching power of Black thought, talent, and creativity is still felt today.

Sign-up to share a song, poem, or speech that means a lot to you! Feel free to share your own original work as well! We ask that all performances be limited to 3-5 minutes.”

The event will be on Thursday, February 4th from 6:00pm-7:30pm. RSVP [here!](http://bit.ly/OMSA_SpokenWord)

GRIT Info Session – Feb 5th at 4:00 PM

“Wondering how to get more involved in supporting diversity, equity, justice, and inclusion efforts at UChicago? Wishing there was some established, grassroots graduate student organization that can provide the continuity and infrastructure to make sustainable positive change? Are you a faculty member who wants to support these efforts and the students behind them?

Great! That is what GRIT, the Graduate Recruitment Initiative Team, is all about! Your Darwinian Cluster Reps, Caroline Abbott, Megan Kennedy, and Isaac Magallanes are excited to announce that we will be holding an info session for **both current students AND faculty Friday 2/5 at 4pm.**

Our goal is to give you the scoop on what sorts of things GRIT actually *does*, how GRIT can help and support both graduate students and our departments as a whole, and why we would love for more of

you to join.

It would be really great to see as many of you there as possible!"

Zoom Link: <https://uchicago.zoom.us/j/99560955490?pwd=TndpSmtSWXpCdm0rOEp1c0sxNDISQT09>

Staff Search Training: Diversifying Your Applicant Pool – Feb 10th 10:00 – 11:30 AM

“Together with partners from Human Resources, the Office of the Provost will host an interactive diversity recruitment and selection workshop. This training enables all participating units to incorporate diversity recruitment best practices into their existing hiring and selection processes.”

Registration Link: <https://diversityandinclusion.uchicago.edu/events/staff-search-training/>

OMAC Black History Month Presentation – Feb 11th 3:00 – 4:00 PM

“Join UChicago's Office for Military-Affiliated Communities for a discussion with the Honorable Jesse White, Illinois Secretary of State and U.S. Army veteran (101st Airborne), and the Honorable Judge William "Bill" Hooks, U.S. Marine Corps veteran and criminal court judge, to discuss the contributions and achievements made by African Americans who have served in the armed and uniformed services.”

Registration Link: <https://diversityandinclusion.uchicago.edu/events/omac-black-history-month-presentation/>

Picture a Scientist Virtual Film Screening - Feb 12th – 18th

“Due to ongoing demand, we are offering another virtual screening of the film *Picture a Scientist*, which leads viewers on a journey deep into a group of women scientists' own experiences, ranging from sexual harassment to years of subtle slights. Thousands of people across the UChicago community have already watched the feature-length documentary. You'll receive a link to the film enabling you to **watch it online at any time February 12 - 18.**

Picture a Scientist was an official selection of the 2020 Tribeca Film Festival, postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The film's virtual theatrical run reached 47 theaters across the USA in June 2020, and raised money for two organizations advancing women of color in STEM.”

Register to watch the film [here](#) and if you have any questions, contact Melissa Sherwin at melissasherwin@uchicago.edu.

Becoming A Resilient Scientist Series

Part II: Understanding Cognitive Distortions, Imposter Fears and Stereotype Threat

Webinar: Feb 15th 1 – 3 PM (also recorded)

Group Meeting: Feb 24th at 11 AM – 12:30 PM

“Navigating research training, the career exploration process, research environments, and the stress of life can seem overwhelming and lead us to doubt ourselves just when we need confidence the most. The goal of this series is to help you develop the resilience you need to navigate challenging situations in school, work and life. The series will consist of six webinars, each followed by a small group discussion the following week. The webinars will highlight emotional intelligence competencies needed for academic success and for thriving in research careers. We will discuss the cultivation of skills to help you realize resilience and identify and deal with obstacles that get in your way. While you may participate in any of the webinars, it is best to participate in the entire series as the material relates and concepts will be developed throughout the series. *Webinars will be led by the NIH Office of Intramural Training & Education, while group meetings will be led by local UChicago facilitators and attended by only UChicago trainees.*”

If you missed Part 1: An Introduction to Resilience, you can watch the recording [here](#) (you'll need to register before watching).

Information about the full series including [future dates and all registration links can be found here](#).

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Black Mental Health: A Time During COVID-19 and Civil Uprising – Feb 18th 5:30 – 6:30 PM

“The Crown family School's African American Alumni Committee seeks to highlight the impact that COVID-19 and protests of racial discrimination and police brutality have on the mental health of affected individuals, and to discuss and explore ways of coping and recovery.

Attend a conversation with Janelle R. Goodwill, Neubauer Family Assistant Professor at the University of Chicago Crown Family School of Social Work, Policy, and Practice; Kouri Marshall, Co-Founder of ChiGivesBack, Inc.; and Suzet McKinney, DrPH, MPH, CEO/Executive Director of the Illinois Medical District. The panel will be moderated by Crown Family School of Social Work, Policy, and Practice alumna Tina K. Sacks, AM '98, PhD '13, Assistant Professor in the School of Social Welfare at the University of California, Berkeley.”

Registration Link: <https://diversityandinclusion.uchicago.edu/events/black-mental-health-a-time-during-covid-19-and-civil-uprising/>

Hearing One Another – Feb 19th 3:00 – 4:30 PM

“Hearing One Another introduces practical approaches to help people develop effective communication and listening skills. As of October 2020, 1 in 5 people at the University has participated in this training.

The UChicago Inclusion Workshops series aims to create a more inclusive campus climate. These workshops were developed by the Second Science Project, which was founded at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business in collaboration with the Second City. The workshops combine behavioral science with improvisational practice to cultivate insights and interpersonal skills central to understanding and relating to one another across dimensions of diversity.”

Registration Link: <https://diversityandinclusion.uchicago.edu/events/hearing-one-another44/>

Darwinian Mental Health Check-in – every other Wednesday from 1-2 PM

Join Sophia and Katie with a cup of tea (or other hot beverage) for a nice chat! The Mental Health Check-ins are going to be every other Wednesday during winter quarter (Feb 10th, Feb 24th, and March 10th) and you can join by clicking on the recurring Zoom link below.

Link: <https://uchicago.zoom.us/j/96792210815?pwd=NXZLSTMveDRQbyt1UTA0Y1VSdXhPUT09>

¡Evolución y Español! – Thursdays at noon

“In the past, Darwinian students informally gathered together in the CEB conference room for weekly chats in Spanish. It was a fun way for both native and non-native speakers to practice speaking and comprehension in Spanish, but has since fallen through during the pandemic. In an effort to revive this event and widen its scope, Darwinian GRIT reps thought it would be fun to make this a weekly lunch event where students and professors can gather to listen and speak Spanish. ALL levels would be welcome, from native speakers to beginners. (Personal testimonial: I joined as a rusty French speaker, realized I understood more than I thought, have since taken two Spanish classes for fun, and now enjoy carrying on conversations with fellow students). We hope this will be an opportunity for meeting new people, building community, and expanding language and cultural interests for those interested!”

Keep an eye out for this week’s link!

Contact the Darwinian GRIT Reps with any questions about this event ([Caroline Abbott](#), [Megan Kennedy](#), and [Isaac Magallanes](#))

UChicago Student Wellness Support Spaces in February

For International Students: “Sponsored by UChicago Student Wellness, this support space is for international students to stay connected during these uncertain times. Through theme-based discussion, participants will have opportunities to reflect together on their needs and goals and learn to approach challenges with a growth mindset.”

Dates: 2/12: Maintaining Productivity; 2/17: Debunking Myths about Mental Health; 2/26: Managing Stress and Uncertainty

For LGBTQ+ Students: “Offered by UChicago Student Wellness, this is a semi-structured space for LGBTQ+ students to receive support from one another during the pandemic and when navigating family dynamics, community, and living arrangements. Join us to learn coping strategies and find ways to navigate circumstances that can be challenging during these uncertain times.”

Dates: Every Friday through March 5th from 12:00 – 1:00 PM

UChicago Student Wellness also offers a plethora of other weekly workshops that can be found, alongside the registration form for the support spaces, [here!](#)

Do you know of an event you would like us to share with the community? Send us

an email and let us know!

Contact Us: ib-deia@lists.uchicago.edu

(All committee members receive the emails sent to this address)