To:

From:

Re: Request to attend the 34th Annual National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in Higher Education

Date:

I would like to attend the National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in Higher Education (NCORE), which will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana, May 31-June 3, 2023. This dynamic annual conference is a place of community and inclusion; it is a forum for building skills, alliances, and knowledge about issues of race and ethnicity in higher education.

At NCORE, individuals and campus teams can work collaboratively under the guidance, tutelage and expertise of recognized and effective scholars, practitioners, and change-makers. It is a place where individuals and institutions share their on-the-ground knowledge about program development, student development, academic assessment tools, effective theoretical frameworks, the latest practice-based research findings, and radical and innovative experiential curriculum to transform higher education in its mission for diversity and inclusion for students, staff, faculty and leadership.

Participation brings faculty, staff, students, and administrators together from more than 1200 institutions and organizations and allows them to create new or elevate existing networks with premier educators in the U.S. NCORE attendees can design their conference experience from a wide variety of more than 350 sessions on race and ethnicity in higher education over 5 days:

* professional development on skills for inclusive practices
* personal identity development to improve own work with diverse communities
* literacy about other specific ethnic/racial groups specifically in higher education settings.
* multicultural leadership skills
* innovations in fine arts, humanities, social sciences and STEM based initiatives in student affairs and academic affairs
* alliance building skills across multiple identities and communities

**By registering early, I can take advantage of registration discounts as well as lower travel costs. If accepted, my participation in the conference would be paid for by the SMC Division of Equity, Pathways, and Inclusion via SEAP funds. I would also work with other SMC attendees after the conference to create an Equity Action Plan for myself, which could possibly lend to creation of a future Equity Action Plan for our department.**

The multi-racial, multi-ethnic and intersectional identity space of NCORE is both challenging and affirming allowing attendees to interact directly about issues of race, ethnicity, sovereignty, institutional racism, historical discrimination, and social justice from one’s own social location and one’s own developmental place.

NCORE will deliver tremendous ROI. These "wins" will pay off in the form of better practices, tested solutions and a network of peers and experts to call upon when troubleshooting. I think you will agree that the time I will be away is a small investment when we consider the value I can bring back.

Thank you for considering this request. I look forward to your reply.

Regards,



