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**Students’ Classroom Experiences with Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion**

**2022 Teaching & Assessment Symposium**

During this March 2022 panel students shared their experiences in UNC classrooms and discussed things that instructors can do to support student success.

* Address DEI statements when reviewing syllabus (don’t pass over that part). Showing an understanding and appreciation for DEI makes students feel important and supported.
* Faculty and staff should have knowledge of all resources on campus or at least how to find those resources. Students don’t know what they don’t know so having someone who can be like “Have you heard of our Disability Resource Center?” is a huge benefit.
* Ask for names and pronouns of students (in a private manner so as not to out them in front of others) and then use those when addressing the student.
* Be understanding that medical issues happen and not everyone can get a formal documentation for a DRC accommodation.
* Believe students when they share their medical issue with you. If they are sharing their condition, they are trusting you to know.
* Don’t out students who do have DRC accommodations in front of others. Be accepting and use them as they should be used.
* Make sure technology is accommodating, such as having closed captions on videos and using a microphone during lecture.
* Be aware that not all students can afford additional course materials. Please post all your required materials with the bookstore so that students are aware of material cost before the start of the semester.
* Highlight work from marginalized populations. Don’t just use resources from white males.
* Share historical and current events that are relevant to the discipline and show inclusivity (i.e.: talk about Black scientists (and not just during Black History Month), talk about current issues impacting students of color).
* Before lecture, take a few minutes to announce reminders of upcoming deadlines/exams. Students shared that getting reminders about the upcoming week Sunday night via Canvas is helpful too.
* **Students love Canvas!** Please use it to post deadlines, grades and reminders.
* Having a grading rubric is helpful for students to understand what you expect from them on their assignments.
* Give timely feedback. Grade and return assignments back quickly so the material is still fresh in their minds, and they know what they did wrong for moving forward.
* Ask for feedback (a few times during the semester and then also at the end of the semester via the course evaluation process) and then really reflect on the negative feedback given to make positive change.
* Check in on your students to let them know you care and that you know who they are. Just saying “Hi So and So” at the beginning of class makes a big impression.
* Students like to see faculty at student events and like to get to know them outside of the classroom.
* “Be a person to us.” This is a powerful statement from one of the students.

This list was compiled by Becky Croissant, NHS, and shared with permission.