Race-Consciousness: Understandings and Strategies to Counter Racism in STEM with Ebony McGee

The Center for Teaching Excellence and the Frank R. Seaver College of Science and Engineering invite you to a keynote lecture and conversation with Dr. Ebony O. McGee (https://peabody.vanderbilt.edu/bio/ebonyo-mcgee), Professor of Diversity and STEM Education at Vanderbilt University.

Despite long-standing research on the integral role underrepresented STEM scholars play in advancing innovative scholarship, diversity, and equity, many universities continue to struggle to recruit and retain them. The historical forces that have shaped differential access to educational, social, political, employment, and other resources and opportunities to advance, are racialized, multifactorial and complex. The result is a biased STEM culture.

This presentation brings together more than ten years of research and engages the audience around race-conscious answers to the following questions:

- What do we need to improve the experiences of Black, Indigenous, students of Color? What could these strategies look like? What are some key components that we must include?
- How do we recruit and retain marginalized and minoritized STEM faculty?
- How do some minoritized STEMers manage to survive brutal academic climates, and what does it cost?
- How can departments begin to shift their day-to-day way of functioning to improve student interactions, climate, and culture?

Given the mission of education, discovery, and service, it is imperative to have well-informed strategies and policies dedicated to identifying, recruiting, and retaining underrepresented people of Color in STEM. Race-conscious mentoring and programming are critical components of such a strategy. The objective of this presentation is to cultivate cultural competence among faculty and to demonstrate why it is necessary to include in our curricula a history of race and racism in STEM education in the US and abroad.

Oct 21st, Thurs 11:30-1:30
Zoom: https://lmula.zoom.us/j/89689560056