EMBRACING DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION AT BOSTON COLLEGE

As part of our Jesuit, Catholic mission, Boston College seeks to create a culture of care and welcome and an environment where all members of our community feel a sense of belonging. We ask our students to consider their gifts, relationships, and actions, and to live lives marked by integrity, engagement, and connection with others. Our liberal arts education is rooted in empowering students with the knowledge to engage in an increasingly global world and to successfully navigate complex, challenging, and diverse settings.

Below are some of Boston College's many resources related to diversity and identity. We encourage you to visit these offices and to reach out to learn how their resources, programming, and services can shape your journey at Boston College.

HELPFUL RESOURCES

Boisi Center for Religion and American Public Life
Fr. Mark Massa, Director
www.bc.edu/boisi

Campus Ministry
Fr. Tony Penna, AVP
www.bc.edu/campus-ministry

Career Center
Joseph Du Pont, Associate Vice President
www.bc.edu/career

Center for Student Formation
Michael Sacco, Executive Director
www.bc.edu/formation

Office of the Dean of Students:
Disability Services
Rory Stein, Assistant Dean of Students with Disabilities
www.bc.edu/dos

LGBTQ+ Resources
Ira Kirschner, EdD, Associate Dean, Bowman Center

First Year Experience
Michael Sacco, Executive Director
www.bc.edu/fye

Office for Institutional Diversity
Patricia Lowe, Executive Director
www.bc.edu/diversity

Office of International Students and Scholars
Adrienne Nussbaum, Director
www.bc.edu/oiss

Learning to Learn
Rosanna Contreras-Godfrey, Director
www.bc.edu/ltl

Montserrat Coalition
Fr. Michael Davidson, Director
www.bc.edu/montserrat

Office of Student Involvement
Roatha Kong, Interim Director
www.bc.edu/osi

Bowman Intercultural Center
Yvonne McBarnett, Director
www.bc.edu/ahana

Undergraduate Government of Boston College
Jonah Kotzen, UGBC President
www.bc.edu/ugbc

Volunteer and Service Learning Center
Daniel Ponsetto, Director
www.bc.edu/service

Women’s Center
Katie Dalton, Director
www.bc.edu/wc
CONTINUING THE CONVERSATION

Engage in courses that diversify your knowledge. Consider new courses in Difference, Justice, and the Common Good or those from African and African Diaspora Studies, Women’s and Gender Studies, Latin American Studies, Asian Studies, etc.

Take a Complex Problems and Enduring Questions course that examines contemporary issues and allows you to reflect upon values related to human life examples. Classes include: Social Inequality in America, Coming of Age Literature and Film, Building a Habitable Planet, and Powering America: Energy, Tech, Environment.

Take Cornerstone courses like Courage to Know, Freshman Topic Seminar, and Perspectives that allow students to reflect on their student life and foster opportunities to establish meaningful and intentional connections between peers and faculty.

Join academic programs and attend the annual activities fairs to learn more about programs like the McNair Scholars or to join culture clubs and other extracurricular activities.

Sign up for retreats that allocate time and space for you to reflect and carry out important discussions. These retreats include 48Hours, Kairos, AHANA Summit, RIDE, and Spectrum.

Attend Culture Shows and other events that allow you to submerge yourself into the traditional and cultural celebration of various regions of the world. Popular shows are put on by the Philippine Society of Boston College (PSBC), the Organization of Latin American Affairs (OLAA), the Southeast Asian Student Association (SASA), the Chinese Student Association (CSA), and the Korean Student Association (KSA). Popular AHANA-sponsored events also include the ALC Ball and Showdown.

Attend Ethnic Heritage Month celebrations like Asian Pacific American Heritage Month (APAHM), Black History Month (BHM), Hispanic Heritage Month (HHM), and Native American Heritage Month (NAHM) that showcase and embrace the history and traditions of various ethnicities.

Visit offices such as the Thea Bowman AHANA Intercultural Center (BAIC), the Women’s Center, the Montserrat Coalition, Learning to Learn (LTL), etc., to learn about the services they provide. Make sure to sign up for their listservs so you are always informed about their events and resources.

Become involved in mentoring programs such as the Benjamin Elijah Mays Mentoring Program (BAIC), Lift as You Climb (BAIC), Freshman League (Center for Student Formation), Ascend (Center for Student Formation), Rise (Women’s Center), Compass Mentoring Program (First Year Experience), and the Montserrat Dinner Club (Montserrat Coalition) to connect with upperclassmen, engage in meaningful conversations, and develop a strong sense of community during your transition into college.

Attend Service and Immersion Trips including Jamaica Magis (Campus Ministry), Appalachia Volunteers/Appa (Campus Ministry), Dominican Republic Service Trip (LTL), Mississippi Delta Service Trip (LTL), Arrupe International Immersion (Campus Ministry), or the Israel/Palestine trip (MCAS) to be challenged by the stories, experiences and relationships encountered in a real-life, community-based learning experience.

Attend events during the Women’s Center CARE week to be better informed on important issues relating to relationships, bystander intervention, and consent that will allow you to create a supportive community around sexual assault survivors.

Get involved in a conversation program that provides space for meaningful conversations with peers about important issues on campus. Some of these programs include: Sisters, Let’s Talk (LTL), Dedicated Intellectuals of the People (LTL), Bowman Advocates for Inclusive Culture (BAIC), Pride Peers, FACES, BRAVE Conference (BAIC), Courageous Conversations (Office of the Provost), and Dialogues on Race (BAIC).

Attend guest lectures and Speaker Series coordinated by the Winston Center for Leadership and Ethnics, the Lowell Speaker Series from the English department, and various other academic centers on campus. Some of the most influential visiting speakers have included Ijeoma Oluo, Ta-Nehisi Coates, Min Jin Lee, and Malia Lazu. More information on these kinds of events can be found on the Boston College calendar.