

IDEA Project: Libraries Talk about Race & Social Work Intern Cohort Report

Library Innovation Subcommittee

April 2022 – Compiled by Mark Jochem

IDEA Project: Libraries Talk about Race

The IDEA (Inclusion Diversity Equity in Action) Project is an LSTA-funded statewide initiative to plan a series of training opportunities for library staff on topics related to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). In 2022, the focus is on race and racial equity resulting in the, Libraries Talk about Race project. The project was planned and implemented in consultation with The People Company, a DEI training and consulting firm.

- Webinars:
 - February 15 (10-11 AM), Let's Talk About Race at Work:
<https://www.wislibidea.com/schedule/> (Recording available, registration required)
 - March 9 (10-11 AM), Engaging Sensitive Conversations and Handling Pushback:
<https://www.wislibidea.com/schedule/> (Recording available, registration required)
 - April 14 (1-2 PM), Understanding Why Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Matter in Majority White Space ([Registration](#))
- Large Group Discussion Facilitated discussion opportunities available. Register here:
 - [Friday, April 1st 1 – 2 PM;](#)
 - [Monday, April 4th 6 – 7 PM;](#)
 - [Tuesday, April 5th 10 – 11 AM;](#)
 - [Tuesday, April 19th 9 – 10 AM;](#)
 - [Monday, April 25th 1 – 2 PM.](#)
- Independent Study Opportunities open dates: Will open shortly after the scheduled webinars to participants. Registration to participate is: <https://www.wislibidea.com/>

Social Work Internship Cohort

Shawn Brommer and Mark Jochem are working in partnership with undergraduate programs of social work from UW-Stevens Point and UW-Madison and a 14-member library cohort to host social work student interns in libraries. This is a continuation of an increased focus on social services in library settings. The interns could potentially provide social work services directly to patrons, assist with library projects, and provide continuing education to the cohort and the whole system. The cohort is currently aiming to be able to offer placements to the students by the end of March.

- Member libraries completed “Field Placement Questionnaires” for the social work programs to describe potential internship placements to students