



## ECE Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Newsletter

January 2024

### HELLO!

WELCOME to this month's issue of the ECE DEI Committee Newsletter! The committee was formed in October of 2020 to ensure that our department sustains a welcoming, encouraging, and equitable environment that recognizes, respects, and values differences.

### RECENT EVENTS

**FRIDAY, January 12, 2024:** The first session of the [LGBTQ+ Safe Space Training](#) was completed by members of the DEI committee along with other ECE community members. Scott Fearing of the URHR Learning & Development Department did an excellent job presenting this session titled "Gaining Knowledge-The Basics". Scott provided participants with foundational definitions and information about LGBTQ+ identities, along with historical perspectives of these identities. To learn more about this engaging learning opportunity, please click the link above.



### UPCOMING EVENTS

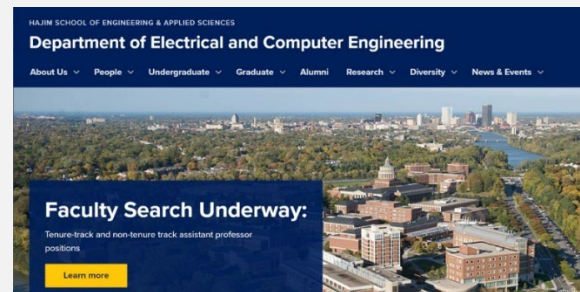
**FEBRUARY 6-25, 2024:** Sign up [here](#) for the annual 21-Day Racial Equity Challenge presented by the UR Office of Equity and Inclusion. Participants will receive a daily email that includes a "challenge" which educates and encourages reflection and action related to diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice. It is open to all alumni, staff, faculty, students, and members of the community.

**FRIDAY, February 9, 2024:** The second session of the LGBTQ+ Safe Space Training will be presented during the normal DEI Committee meeting time (noon in CSB 426B).

**FRIDAY, March 8, 2024:** ECE DEI Committee meeting, 12:00PM – 1:00PM, CSB 426. The UR student chapter of Out In Stem ([oSTEM](#)) will be providing a

brief overview of their charter, and we'll discuss opportunities for collaboration.

### DIVERSITY SPOTLIGHT



MEMBERS of the ECE DEI committee will be participating in the evaluation of candidates for the open ECE faculty positions. As part of the Interview process taking place in the first quarter, committee members will meet with each candidate, using the opportunity to discuss the candidates' DEI statements and our department's goals and efforts in the area.

### OBSERVANCES

WE'D like to acknowledge the following January / February observances.

- January 1: Western New Year
- January 4: World Braille Day
- January 7: Orthodox Christmas
- January 15: Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- January 16: National Day of Racial Healing
- January 17: Guru Gobind Singh Jayanti
- January 21: World Religion Day
- January 27: Holocaust Remembrance Day
- February 1-29: Black History Month
- February 1: Imbolc
- February 10: Lunar New Year
- February 10: Losar
- February 14: Ash Wednesday / Valentines Day
- February 15: Parinirvana Day
- February 17: Random Acts of Kindness Day
- February 19: Presidents Day
- February 24: Magha Puja (Sangha Day)
- February 25: Lailat at Bara'a