

## The Editorial Note

### Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Academic Research



The virtual Conference “**Advancing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Academic Business Research: East-West Dialog of Values**” conducted on March 16, 2021, was a great success. It was organized in cooperation with Al Ain University, UAE, and Webster University, St. Louis, MO, USA.  
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The event provided a unique platform for researchers to focus on common challenges preventing the inclusion of diversity issues into academic research. It offered a platform to create more inclusive research across the globe.

The conference was introduced by Dr. Nikolay Megits, the Conference Coordinator, and the Journal JEECAR Editor-in-Chief, followed by a welcome from Dr. Simone Cummings, the Conference Chair, and the Dean of GHW School of Business & Technology at Webster University, USA, and Dr. Ghaleb A. El Refae, the President of Al Ain University from UAE. In their keynotes, they shared their insights on fostering inclusive and equitable cultures in academia, drawing on research and lessons learned from supporting a positive campus racial climate within higher education.

Next, the conference participants were assigned to participate in three separate tracks, Track 1 on Diversity, Track 2 on equity, and Track 3 on inclusion. Following that, a summary by the three Tracks co-chairs was provided.

An exciting and fun part of the conference was the Speed Networking. Conference participants entered the Speed Networking area in ZOOM, where they were paired with other conference attendees to meet and introduce themselves. In a matter of an hour, conference attendees crossed the entire world, meeting and exchanging ideas with other participants from Italy, South Africa, UAE, Taiwan, Czech Republic, Lithuania, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Ukraine, Hungary, and the USA.

Next, an insightful panel discussion, titled “Inclusion into Curriculum and Research: Practical Implementation,” took place. Speakers from different parts of the world shared examples of implementing inclusive curriculum into various disciplines of their universities’ teaching practices and research.

The last part of the conference was presentations of selected articles. Prominent academics, researchers shared key findings and upcoming research undertakings in the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion dialogue of Eastern vs. Western human values.

In conclusion, the conference was a fantastic event. Participants from different parts of the world met, shared their experience on strategies of building inclusion into academic curriculum and training, and emphasized the importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion in research.

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\* Conference Agenda can be reviewed on <https://www.ieeca.org/journal/index.php/JEECAR/DiversityConference2021>