



*Graduate School of Education
and Allied Professions*

Statement From The GSEAP Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee May 2020

Our Purpose in GSEAP is:

Guided by the belief in the inherent worth and dignity of each person, a respect for diversity, and commitment to equity and inclusion, we prepare compassionate and forward-thinking education and mental health leaders who empower the marginalized and transform individuals, families, organizations, and communities.

Furthermore, Catholic social teaching emphasizes respect for life and our Jesuit values remind us that the promotion of social justice is an absolute requirement of the work we love and do.

We are compelled then to forcefully object to the way Mr. George Floyd was killed on May 25. There was no dignity, respect, love, or justice shown toward one of our brothers. Since 1619, racism targeting black people has plagued our country – a fact that many are unable or unwilling to accept. That is not in alignment with our shared purpose.

Let us remember Mr. Floyd and the other women and men who have lost their lives merely for “driving, sleeping, or jogging while black.” Let us commit anew to confront racism, classism, and other forms of oppression in everything we do. Let us be passionate upstanders who recognize and respond to incidents of discrimination within our sphere of influence. And with these actions let us create the change necessary for ALL citizens to live safe and healthy lives.

In Solidarity,

Bob Hannafin, Dean
Stephanie Storms, Associate Dean
The GSEAP Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee: Anne Campbell, Bryan Crandall, Gina Ludlow, Stephaney Morrison, Nicole O’Brien, Jay Taylor, and the rest of the GSEAP faculty and staff