

Memo

To: Bethel Community Members
From: President Brushaber
Re: Introductory Antiracism Training

It continues to be my dream that Bethel University become a Christian learning community where all people and races are respected, valued, and participate fully in our community, in a spirit of genuine biblical reconciliation. I know that this dream is shared by many of you, and it is one that the Board of Trustees fully endorses. In recent years Bethel has taken significant steps toward realizing this dream, including the addition of gifted and committed persons with outstanding expertise to lead us in this area. A series of mandatory workshops and employee development sessions was conducted several years ago, facilitated by an external group.

Now I announce, with this letter, the next training series for new and current employees and invite your enthusiastic participation. This series, called Introductory Antiracism Training, is more Bethel-specific and will be led by Dr. Leon Rodrigues, chair of the Bethel Antiracism and Reconciliation Commission (BARRC) and other colleagues who are members of the BARRC training team. This constructive workshop is thought-provoking and action-oriented and designed to provide participants with a heightened understanding of the systemic aspects of institutional and societal change and to encourage involvement in the biblical vision of multicultural and racial diversity. All Bethel colleagues are expected to participate.

The Office of Human Resources will send a list of dates the workshops will be presented. Each employee—faculty, staff, full-time and part-time—is expected to attend one four-hour session. Each session will have between 20 and 30 participants. Supervisors will help to facilitate work schedules to enable attendance. If you have any questions, please contact Leon Rodrigues at extension 6384 or email barrc@bethel.edu.