0:13

good to see everybody my name is Anthony child director of San Jose State University's School of information thank 0:19

you for joining us and Welcome to our celebration and recognition of Black History Month chat is on so please take 0:26

a moment to share and chat where you're joining us from it gives me and the high school great

pleasure to support Equity diversity and inclusion in all of its beauty and power and I want to thank our outstanding 0:38

speakers and panelists for taking the time to join us today the theme of today's Symposium is equity in libraries 0:45

2023 and Beyond making a successful entry into the profession and this is

0:50

part of our EDI Symposium series sponsored by the ischool all of our EDI Symposium recordings and transcripts and 0:57

resources are available in our EDI library in alfredo if you wouldn't mind drop that in the chat and also please 1:04

subscribe to our brand new EDI YouTube channel also if we could drop that in the chat you'll be notified every time a 1:11

new Symposium recording is posted and this will be joining that uh in a week

1:16

or so after for today's session if you have a question please use the Q a feature and someone from our 1.22

distinguished panel will answer it also periodically we'll make chat available for more interactive q a especially near 1.29

the end today's Symposium was in part born on an unforgettable day for me spent with my

friend and Mentor Wanda Brown advocating for libraries on Capitol Hill during National Library legislative day as a

young Professor it was a quite an honor to spend time with Wanda who was then the current ala president she is kind 1:49

wise in a true model of hard work dedication and commitment to her students her patrons in the field

one of the seminal points that we talked about was that it's not enough to just support EDI but rather we must apply it 2:03

in the field and provide the necessary support to nurture it I never forgot those discussions as we walked the long 2:10

Halls of Congress and I think while we must have did 20 000 steps easy and and

2:15

we met with members of the House and Senate uh so it's great a great honor uh

2:20

and with enthusia enthusiasm I want to present to you Wanda Brown past ala president and director of Library 2:26

services at Winston-Salem State University who will lead and moderate our Symposium today welcome one thank 2:34

you thank you thank you very much let me thank first all the panelists who are

2:39

joining us but I also want to thank the I don't know how many of you are out there I hear about 350 registered I want 2:48

to thank you for investing in yourselves because that's key to what we're going

to talk about today I am extremely delighted to have um Elena Nolan to kick us off today

3:01

everything we're talking about today is a way for you to make sure you are

prepared to enter this profession and if you're new to the profession to just do 3:13 maybe like a temperature check to make sure things that you are giving at your says what I'd like to ask you to do 3:21 today is as each speaker speaks take notes for yourself as to that temperature check is there more you can do to support diversity Equity inclusion 3:35 is there uh did a speaker give you something to think about something you like to pursue further so we welcome all of your thoughts and we hope that you will uh get a lot from today that will encourage you motivate you and push you forward to take additional steps so first we're going to have Elena talk to us uh this morning first like I keep saying one is this afternoon here but it's morning there so Elena I'm gonna let you and all 4:05 the other panelists as we go through today introduce themselves okay so I will turn it over to Elena hello everybody uh let me give some 4:21 hello hello I'm Elena Norland I am um the Acer professional development coordinator and I'm also um someone who wrote a book about 4:32 Employee Engagement and for people to have the best experience possible while they're at work and I'm excited about this talk today because I'm the keynote so I I approached this as I want to give you guys things to think about right so this is a thinking half an hour for you and like I always say for anybody who's seen me talk before if you have any questions or concerns afterwards always 4:59 feel free to reach out to me I'm very open to talking and asking questions and stuff like that so feel free to reach out so the The Talk today is going to be about inclusive workplaces it's the eye 5:14 and the d i EDI that that I what does I 5:20 mean and where does it fit in that whole conversation I've done a talk like for this a lot of times and I wanted to see if we wanted to do some polls because a lot of people don't really know what I it's for what 5:37 does inclusive mean so these are some definitions I actually found online and see which one of these actually resonates with you if any of them resonate with you um you want to go to polls everywhere um you want to go Alina norlin n-o-r-l-i-n-584-237-607 and then just put whatever you think um it would be give me a idea of like 6:06

where your thought is in terms of creating inclusive workplaces

6:12 so I'll give you guys a few seconds to think of it for people who might may or may not see it um a is it means affirmative action at work he is apologizing for white privilege seeing in his marginalized people are recognized for their accomplishments D workplace free upulling and hostility e none of the above F all of the above so let's see what you guys think and like I said I all of these things I found literally 6:54 um online 7:04 give it a few more seconds 7:21 okay um we're gonna we're gonna go on with this one the answer is actually none of the above it's none of the above um let me give you what the traditional um definition is um it's an inclusive workplace that's defined as a work environment that makes every you see that I specified every employee feel valued we're also 7:49 acknowledging their differences on how these differences contribute to the organization's culture and outcomes the 7:55 reason why this is important part of the conversation is always how does we make everyone in the organization no one is Left Behind in the organization when 8:06 they feel valued right but the trick is when you look at inclusive workplaces is that part and the second part of it and this is the second part is what we're going to talk about today if you are providing an inclusive workplace that means that the differences contribute to the organization's culture and outcomes and I want to say that again because this is what's hard the differences contribute to the organizational culture and outcomes and what that means is that if we're embracing everyone's unique talent skills and abilities that means that somehow the organization will change a little bit and a lot of times when I do my work in terms of organizational culture the number one things that people tell me all the time is that the organization does not change there's assimilation status quo you know reluctant to change in all these other languages so but if we are going towards a 100 inclusive environment the organization would be changing at all times so keep that in mind so this is a joke I was laughing with my friends here the secret to why inclusive is so elusive right and because when you 9:28

do the research when I was doing research about the best environments to work at ever and I was talking to people 9:35

who love absolutely love working for their job it really is a very small

9:43

percentage of organizations around the world that feel that way uh the current

9:48

number is about 10 to 12 of all organizations not just libraries all

9.53

over the world feel this way so why is numbers of this so small why is it so

9:58

Tidal so what I have come up with just from visiting libraries consultant work

1 N·N 4

things like that is that number one we have to acknowledge that the current state in the current state in most of

our organizations is that everyone is not being respected for the talent skills and abilities they bring to the

organization that it's not a true statement so if we start with that as a

10:23

hey our current state is is that we have inequities within this then we can work

10.20

on it but a lot of times we're not really even willing to acknowledge that that is going on within our environment 10:35

the second thing about inclusivity it requires intentional action you have to

10.41

be aware of just what I said before as you whoever in your organization

10:46

blossoms into the best version of themselves at work the organization will change and so in order for us to be able 10:55

to to make sure that everyone is moving in that direction we have to be very

11:00

intentional it can't be very passive or it'll just work itself out it doesn't work itself out the top organizations

11:07

that do really well in this are very very intentional

11:13

assimilation status quo comfort that is usually the main reason why it's not

11:18

inclusive there is always something within the organization I would say after the six month honeymoon period

that pushes us back to assimilation status quo and comfort in the way that

11:30

we always have done things that's that we've always done this this way we've tried that before but we can't do that 11:37

anymore we need for you to do it our way we need for you to do it the Corporate

11:42

Way the job way the organization way that's where that comes in another reason this is especially

11:49

prevalent for libraries is conflict avoidance a lot of times when we have differences and the more that people are 11:56

come in who are different in all kinds of ways you're going to have attention you're going to have disagreements

you're going to have conflict and so how can we navigate through what is very

12:08

going to always be normal conflict is normal disagreements is normal all of that's normal how do we work through 12:14

that and if you don't remember anything that I say for this keynote true

12:20

inclusiveness will change or at least tweak the word culture

12.2

will change or at least tweak the word culture so I'm going to give an example I want

12:33

you to really think about this because this is something um someone told me this is a real life

12:38

story um and I really want you to think about what I was saying before and how this

12:45

relates to this case study so afterwards I'm going to ask for your thoughts and so as I run through this study I want 12:51

you to think about how this place either provided an inclusive environment or did

12:56

not provide an inclusive environment so this was a public library what I mean

13:01

by changing demographics it used to be a sort of an older community the people had you know sort of retired or left or 13:09

something like that a newer Community had came into this public library they were younger uh they were new couples 13:15

new um new people they didn't really have children yet um a lot of them were entrepreneurs and

13:22

sort of the people who used to come into the library to do business work were no longer there and so the library wanting

to be inclusive had sort of start working with a person in the community a local person who was a small business 13:38

owner that worked part-time at the library they encouraged him and got him the resources he needed to get a library 13:45

degree what she did and once he got his Library degree they offered him a job as

13:51

the new business librarian because he had business experience it was great uh

13:57

everybody patted on the back for or getting someone who was in the community getting them through Library school and 14:03

actually getting them a job so in that whole kind of diversity Recruitment and all that other stuff it's a win-win

right however there was a culture Clash the business librarian did that Noah was

14:16

a culture class but behind the scenes the the people who had hired him were

14.22

starting to feel more and more uncomfortable so what it was happening is that before when they had a sort of a 14:28

different clientele the business librarian would basically teach classes

14:33

about the online resources maybe bring in some outside business entities that

14:39

would just give really basic business training it was very very formalized it

14:44

was sort of a just a really formal structured setting and that's what the

14:49

business librarian who had been there a long time did that person retired and this new person who came in was because 14:56

they were a small business owner they were not they were not a traditional business person they were more of an 15:01

entrepreneur believed in much more experimentation they were much more collaborative they brought this young 15:07

community in because they were part of that community and they were doing a lot of things that wasn't really the culture of that particular Library so people were talking about him behind 15:21 his back about how uncomfortable all of this experimentation and new ideas in 15:27 this rapid succession was coming in and it was making them uncomfortable 15:33 the success Matrix were there so they couldn't fire a person because actually the work that he was doing was increasing the number of programs they didn't have people using the resources and now they do have people using the resources and the attendance went up circulation they were they were checking out more resources and books all the the success and Matrix were high so they couldn't say You're Fired right however what they did instead is during 16:04 the this performance evaluation for the first year they gave him a lukewarm um annual year and they told them that they would give him a better review if 16:17 he went back to more of a traditional model that he would bring his people in and it wouldn't be us Rowdy and and excitable and experimental but he would bring them in and do the traditional 16:30 teaching of the classes and teaching of the online resources sort of take his modern approach into their structure they said that he was if he was willing to do that then he would get more money he would get an incentive but they wanted him to Halt a quick heart of the other experimentation that he was doing foreign what do you guys think what are your thoughts and reactions what do you think 17:03 happened to the business librarian what would you have done if you've got that lukewarm performance for you but with a caveat that it would get better if you 17:16 went to back to a traditional model 17:25 he left for a library everybody's thriving at the leader blackmail 17:34 what does other five 17:44 they wanted the appearance of change without the actual change they didn't have real expectations from the library the person stopped trying he left to be authentic elsewhere you decide to fit into the business culture 18:06

as to fit went to another Library

very interesting the community lost a great connection to

18:26

the library when he left for another Library left the library profession

18.38

actually he did not um this is not an unusual case

18:44

um he took the money and and conformed right

18:50

um and he had a family he was remember he

18:56

was from the community that was his area um they didn't they didn't tell him that

19:04

he had to do it or else they just provided and sent us for him to perform so he took the incentives and and stayed

there and just like some of what you guys said just there's a lot of things to unpack

19.18

here but one of the things that you some of you guys were exactly right the

19.24

library organization wouldn't change within a structured job description

19:29

framework so they felt like they were doing a good thing and they were right they took someone from the 19:35

community they got them a library degree they got them a job and thought this

19:42

would be great as the business person but hadn't really thought through what that person who's different they were

always an entrepreneur they were always out with the community they didn't really the library itself didn't really 19:56

think about by hiring someone that the organization would change

20:01

as soon as they saw the change they panicked and then they went towards let's Hornets in

20:10

and the assimilation and is this one was interesting where there was consequences

20:16

and rewards a lot of times that doesn't happen sometimes that what happens is if it

20:23

wasn't always success Matrix the person would have got a message saying either you conform or this will be your job 20:29

right you didn't get conform or this would be your job but it was conformed

20:34

and we were award you so that's an interesting thing but it doesn't always

20:40

add up to consequences and rewards sometimes it's consequences and consequences right but in this case the 20:48

the assimilation was based on um Rewards

20:54

um the guy now I I did talk to him and he is disengaged he's checked out some

21:00

of you guys that were right on and spot on about that he was disengaged and they $% \left\{ 1\right\} =\left\{ 1\right\} =\left$

21:06

are still continuously meeting and doing the experimental ideas interesting enough at a community center on the 21:13

other side of town right so there's still innovating creating but the library is

21:21

not benefiting from it so he didn't stop his creative activities his best version

of himself is being given in a volunteer element somewhere else outside of the

21:33

library spear so some of the people which you guys said that um they are

21:40

at a disadvantage because as he could have become a better version of himself

21:46

at work they would have really really benefited

21:53

so like what could have been done here um I get this a lot like well what what

21.58

should have been done what could have been done right and that this is a time where there should have been a long-term 22:05

goal conversation right and this is not for him to have

22:10

initiated but in some cases I always tell you know people who want to manage up you know that let's manage up to have 22:17

that conversation so the library itself wanted more people

22:23

in the library the the technique that they were using to get more people in

22:28

the library wasn't working right the technique that he was using to get people in the library was working but

22:35

ultimately the goal was to get people in the library and using these sorts of stuff his technique was different but 22:41

the goal was exactly where they wanted to be so in that conversation where they were

22:47

like could you just do it the traditional way it could have been what the traditional

22:52

way was not working so let's have a conversation about where

22:57

do we want to be how where and how the goal of where we want to be

23:03

and there was never any conversation about that so they waited until the end

23:08

during the end with you to have that conversation but by then they had already you know provided this other

incentive but in reality this should have been sat down and talked about before as he was doing his work as soon

as there was an element of discomfort then a person should have sat down with him and talked about it and see how they

could come with a win-win so maybe they're overwhelmed with how fast things were going but there could be more of a 23:37

sort of a you know stance where we're moving slowly more

23:42

slowly but we're still getting to the goal but there needs to be a conversation that's when I mean that conflict avoidance 23:49

and the question is always how can we use differences to Excel and grow as an organization so by him becoming like 23:57

everybody else did not benefit the organization at all they lost in that in

24.03

that element so the question is always how can we use differences to acceler

24:10

and then the other thing is which is hard because I've been a manager before you have to have allowed trust in 24:16

experimentation so some of the things that he was doing did worked out and some of them did not but that trust and

24:24

experimentation is what comes to the Innovation on the other side so as managers for the managers who run 24:31

here allowing for that time to have the trust and experimentation is where the

24:38

inclusivity comes in flexibility comes without and control release I always tell people who I when

24:46

I do Management training is that it's so one of the number one things they tell me it's so hard to let go and and to let 24:53

go of the control but I always say if you allow yourself to do a control release the benefits of

the organization is 10 times as much and having

25:08

and I also recognize that you can't let go of the control right away so having exercises where you allow for people to 25:15

do like I said in this case what they were overwhelmed with I bet you with that how fast the change happened 25:21

but to have it where we have a conversation is this is how we're going to move so the organization change where 25:27

everybody can catch up with it is where they need it to be in order to make sure

25:34

that the business librarian was really thriving and not disengage as he is

25:39

right now so now that I have your attention I know

25:44

there's some new people here I also wanted to talk about inclusivity in

25:50

terms of you figuring out if you're a new person going to a new job or you're thinking about getting another job and 25:57

you are like I'm sick of this crappy job I want to go to another job I always

26:02

this is an advice I give to a lot of people all the time and when it just took a few minutes out and show you how it works 26:08

that the new environment post pandemic it's not just looking at jobs and benefits in

26:15

their benefit package we're really looking at what it feels like the employee experience what does it feel

26:21

like after to be in this job you know after the six-month honeymoon period

26:27

what is it going to be like how am I going to feel working here right what do

26:32

what what is my experience going to be like here and I always say that as it when you're

26:39

recruiting or interviewing for a job it goes both ways it is always both ways there your life is going into whatever 26:47

positions you spend more time at work than anywhere else so I always encourage questions and I

26:54

always encourage for people to to make decisions that that adds to their only

27.00

their health and their well-being and their work-like balance so the things that I always would say is

to look Beyond pay and benefits research what it would feel like to work at this new job

27:14

during the interview ask questions and here's the important part not only listen but watch the non-verbal cues 27:22

will tell you a lot the non-verbal cues will tell you quite a bit

27.27

listen to your gut instincts and even you know I understand it

27:33

sometimes you just need to have get a job and a paycheck and you just need to get out of there I I get it trust me but 27:40

you want to still have all of this information so you can go in with your eyes open I always tell people the first 27.47

job that I ever got when I got out of Library school was at the University of Arizona and I asked a lot of questions I 27:54

asked a lot of questions and I remember one of the ladies her name was Carrie Russell because I never will forget her

pull me aside she was she wasn't on the search committee but she pulled me aside and said Elena this job here at the 28:07

University of Arizona it will have a high degree of chaos if you are looking

28:13

for structure if you're looking for things to have a predictable path you

28:18

will be miserable here if you take this job understand the high degree of Chaos

28:25

and I took the job right so but when the chaos came I I already knew that it was

28:32

happening I didn't feel angry or feel disillusioned about it because I already knew that that was the experience and I 28:39

felt that I could that was fine with me I I I don't need a whole lot of structure so I had I made that decision 28:46

and even though a lot of people who came to University of Arizona left because $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) \left(1\right) \left($

28:51

they couldn't deal with the chaos the fact that she told me that and then I made that decision helped me during a 28:59

lot of different times within the organization so that doesn't mean to get the information and turn down the job 29:05

but sometimes you do but always go in with loaded down with the research and

29:11

to make a more informed decision so I'll hear some things and here's some

29:17

things that I would suggest that you think about um and we could talk more about it later if you know I wanted to contact me is

29:25

here are some things and questions that I would frame how do they resolve disagreements in conflict

29:32

are they more at a scarcity or abundance thing is it do more with less is it we

29:38

don't have enough money we don't have enough this we don't have enough fat you

29:43

know that kind of thing do you want to be in a situation where we're we're feeling you know like we're always in a 29.49

you know do more take on more you know burnout Vibe find out what's going on 29:55

with either it's a scarcity or it's more of an abundance even if they have less resources but they're like we're working 30:01

on it we've got a plan you know and people feel sort of like we are structuring our work to to make sure 30:09

that we are doing the work as most efficiently as we can but we're allowing

people to still feel whole insane that's more of an abundance mindset know the difference and be able to ask those questions creative thinking versus 30:25 challenging status quo right remember from business librarian she's a creative thinker they were status quo being able to ask that questions about it maybe then if you knew they were more status Chloe by the time when he realized that he was deep in he could have maybe came back and said hey how do you guys feel because they weren't talking to him but knowing that before would have helped him out career progression know like how do you move around it's not just getting a management position but how can you move around in this in this job performance evaluation is always important how do you talk to the person that you're 31:08 directly reporting to more frequently is it a situation like business librarian where they just get the annual review and that's the first time they're talking you want to know in that annual 31:19 review process how often are you developing a relationship so you're not blindsided at the end of the year and are they retaining employees is it 31:30 more of a if somebody leads we'll just get another one or is it we are figuring out ways to value and appreciate the talent and the skills and abilities that come in because we are work that without employees the organization is nothing so how are they maintaining employees so finally I want to bring it all together I always everybody knows me I always have hundreds of stories so I want to show you how I made a decision on to turn down a job and what I went through so I'm just explaining to you the process right and trusting your instance I was recruited um to come in to be a public library director they flew me in and they gave 32:16 me an extra day to sort of see the area the neighborhood whatever 32:23 before I met with the city manager and and uh sort of the group 32:31 what I decided to do is to not just go to the library but to go around to 32:36 different Community areas and ask questions about the library and I was curious about just you know not people who were in the library go I love the library but I wanted to know you know like if I went to the local Starbucks or if I went to you know any kind of local group you know do they have an opinion about the library and what I found is that the indigenous

people who had worked there I mean who had lived in the community had a very negative reaction about that library and

33:11

well the libraries it was multiple libraries but they had a very negative reaction about it and I had talked to

multiple indigenous people and they were like you know you seem like a really relaxed person and we hope you get the 33:23

job of explaining you if you get the job you know we don't feel welcomed at the

33:29

library and that was important information for me to know so the next day when I did the job

33:37

interview there there was 10 questions and eight of the questions

33.43

were about discipline staff it was about discipline how do you discipline it was it was it was frayed to me in eight 33:51

different ways but all of it was about discipline so the first question I had after all of

33.57

that was over was why did you guys ask me eight questions about discipline staff is there something going on that I 34:04

don't know and I watched and the management the

34·00

city management team turned beat red and they were clinching their fists back and

34:15

forth like this and they said it between Clint T this they were like these are

34.20

traditional management questions any director would get these kind of

34:26

questions and I pushed back I said no not actually there's hundreds of business I mean management related 34:32

questions you could pick for all kinds of questions I said but it's eight out of ten why is it eight out of ten and

they were furious with me right I mean they were smiling but they were periods because remember I said watch the body 34:45

language then I threw in hey when I was talking to community I

34:52

ended up getting some comments about from the indigenous people and I said I'm not sure if you knew this but you 34:58

know I I want to talk a little bit about this and they said the first thing they said to me is that the indigenous people 35:05

you probably talked to were drunk and and they were probably homeless

35:11

but they weren't drunk and homeless they were at Starbucks what are you talking about right they're not drunken homes 35:17

but the fact that they told me that they were drunk and homeless

35:22

gave me a lot of why those indigenous people were not

35:28

welcomed in the facility and then you could tell that they had

35:34

gotten so mad that I had asked that question they couldn't everything else I

35:40

went to they kept going back to we you know I can't believe you asked that question

35:45

so that meant that I was the person who was going to be supervising me didn't like for me to ask questions was going 35:53

to I felt more of a bullying kind of Bot if I had said anything challenged and I

wouldn't be able to have and I wasn't confrontational I was just asking questions and if they're already angry with me asking basic questions what would my experience be like when I'm trying to make changes at that at that facility right so instantly I knew like yes I might have been able to come in and make some changes but it would have been through a lot of 36:23 adversity and if the The Branding of indigenous people is that they're drunk homeless then it was going to be an uphill battle so in that sense I instantly made a decision that for my mental wealth and helping I withdrew my application but if I would have just went with the money the pay pay was fabulous and the courting and and whatever it didn't ask those questions I would have walked into 36:53 something that would have cost me a lot of harm down the line so I I want to leave that with you that yes I could have been made a decision in that moment to say hey I think I'm going to stay and fight it but then that's when I look at your 37:12 emotional well-being your emotional health where do you want to be what is your experience will be 37:19 like and I decided at that moment that I did not want that and even though the 37:26 money was great and the benefit package and all that was great I I decided to go with me instead right so I want you to leave with that always pick you ask questions why if they say no no no we just will answer it on email like no I need the camera on and I need for us to if it's a zoom call make sure the camera is on you need to watch body language you need to see what's going on you need to then be able to make a decision for whether it will appreciate 38:03 you in an inclusive environment or not 38:09 so thanks everybody this is the book that I wrote for the research that I have it's from Ela it's just sort of it's a handbook on how to create more better and healthier work organizations if you don't have it you can always get it in a library loan but if you do get it that's great ala thank you for that um and like I said if you have any questions or concerns or anything like that um feel free and always to reach out to me and it's always a great hair to do let's see what's good here doing so um have a great day good thanks 38:49

thank you Elena for a wonderful Kickstart to what I hope to be is more

38:56 conversations that will pick up from where you left us because I think if nothing else we know that it's everybody's responsibility to make that environment welcoming and inclusive before you head off are there were there questions in the Q a for 39:15 Elena yes Wanda they're a couple let me um ask 39:21 the first question from James uh did the library after this assimilation example start losing attendance again or anything negative or do they still benefit from his contribution 39:33 no I went back to it went back before it just went back they lost the people people weren't interested so he um he told me that they just met at the 39:44 community center um so yes no the people were not interested in the traditional model great um and the second question is are there any resources or how to's on how to do control release effectively uh okay whoever said that send me an email I have a book for you um I I don't remember it off the top of my head but send me an email and I'll find it for you that's a Maha qamaran so thanks uh okay another question um how do people of color who are in 40:18 leadership positions manage the emotional labor and expectations to solve all of the lack of minority representation Within librarianship 40:32 I would say here that that's what I meant by ultimately um when you look at inclusive that it also means all right and 40:46 the reason why I say it's a lot more complex and the reason why it's a lot more elusive right is because it's not 40:54 just the you know like oh we're gonna you know make sure everybody feels welcome it's the structure and the culture of the organization it is the weather we're offering recognition and praise whether we are providing opportunities for people to to thrive it's it's a variety of different things and the number one thing I always say is it's not just the leader sort of like Wanda in her Library it's the people who she has supporting her that all have the same vision of of where she's at and how she wants her staff to feel in the library everybody has to be in alignment so what I always find is when I do my

manager are all over the place some people are having good experiences some people are not or whatever so I think

work is that the the director might be great but then people in the middle

that just getting back to what your question is that we have to really work on our organization what I said before 41:55 it has to be intentional and it has to be not just the person at top doing all of the labor but it has to be that we're all in alignment one of the things that 42:07 I feel very strongly about is that we need more training in terms of leadership 42:13 um uh visioning not just strategic planning but leadership strategic 42:19 planning and how you can make sure that everybody is getting a similar experience in terms of the people first employees first and how we can make sure we get paid extra money we got paid more money to make sure our our staff are you know um being the best versions of themselves at work that's why we get paid the more 42:43 money that's why we are at those leadership positions but it's not one person doing it all themselves at all it is making sure that the continuity goes through without the organization and 42:57 it's not easy work I am I'm no way on giving the person it's a like this in his intentional work and you have to put effort into it in order to get the results it really is got to do the work wonderful Elena that's that's amazing uh yeah so somebody could drop the uh the link to her book in the chat that would be uh fantastic uh are there any other questions for Elena but I know she has another meeting she has to get to thank you so much guys I'm so glad that you guys stopped by and like I said always feel free to reach out if you have any other questions thank you Wanda for inviting me and I hope you guys have a a great rest of the program and hit 43:40 Elena I just wanted to compliment you on your use of pull everywhere uh talk about Equity diversity inclusion including us in your presentation that was that was quite inspiring and I'm gonna have to borrow from that uh in the future great job nice to meet you thank you so much you're welcome thank you Elena enjoy your afternoon thank you thanks I want to thank Elena because uh so much of what we wanted to cover today was the fact that uh as a library school student in case you are that or a recent graduate or someone who's been in a profession for a long time I think we all need to understand that it's all of our responsibility to make sure that our profession that our libraries are

welcoming and inclusive and so therefore we have this wonderful panel that's

going to come together and talk um to us but I think are we taking a

44:41

break Anthony first so we're going to go straight into the panel whatever you think Wanda um I I think we 44.48

might be okay um okay yeah okay all right then so um

44:54

the panelists have been asked to talk specifically about what they have done

to ensure that their places or their professional whatever they too whatever

angle they choose but what have you done to make sure that it is inclusive and

welcoming and I think first up is uh Michael crumpton and as I said earlier 45:17

I'll ask each presenter to introduce themselves a little further to the group

thank you Michael and thank you good morning everybody hope you're doing well

um someone said something about no queries in Los Angeles this morning and I haven't had a chance to see if that's 45:35

true but hopefully it doesn't come up your way so I'm Mike crumpton I'm at the

University of North Carolina in Greensboro uh I'm the dean of the libraries now I've been here 15 years 45:48

and I'm also Affiliated faculty member in the library and information science program and have been doing that for 45:54

over 10 years and that's important because uh I'm going to consider myself representing here that it's not about me 46:02

it's about all of us and we have great collaboration between the libraries and the Las Department uh including with Dr 46:10

Chow is here so uh and we miss you Anthony um are we going to go around you I'm

46·15

going to go ahead and talk a little bit you can go ahead and talk okay okay so what I wanted to share with you is some 46:22

of the things that we've done uh both as libraries and in collaboration with Las because it's I think it's been 46:28

significant in moving the needle and listening to Elena talk uh which we're part of a circle so we know her from 46:35

that point of view too uh she made some terrific points and things that we have

actually experienced and lived with and so please take the heart what she's talking about and her book is is really 46:47

great um and then I used to talk about impex a village so you know it's not about me

like I said I'm representing but um if you watch the Super Bowl uh this year that the slogan of that it takes all of 47:00

us came out in some of the players had that on their elements and I just really

like that because that's true it takes all of us and so some of what I'm going to talk to you about

is things for you to look for when you're looking uh in the institutions and out here job hunting because it's 47:18

not easy you know that's how Elena kind of ended up about it not being easy and it's it's been a lot of change 47:25

so we we've had a diversity resident program in the library one of our seventh residents so that means we've 47:33

been doing this uh about 15 16 years and uh we're very proud of that with one of 47:39

the first ones to initiate that kind of program uh it took the vision of the the 47:44

current Dean at that time to make it happen and it took a lot of patience 47:49

with uh people trying to understand what this was all about at the time this

organization the libraries had one minority librarian and now we're closer 48:01

to 10 percent and I know that's still not perfect or right but it's a progress

and so this is always going to be a work in progress but the the um The Residency

48:12

program has taught us all a lot and the part of that was instilling into the

48:18

culture that A diversity resident Librarian Is first a librarian a

48:23

professional you know we didn't want them to be treated like a graduate student on the reference desk you know 48:29

you've actually agree you can have all the rights and privileges uh and there was a lot of organizational culture that 48:35

needed to kind of wrap itself around that people kind of have a tendency to default to oh I got an extra pair of 48:42

hands here and stuff like that and that's not what it's about The Residency program is about we call it packing a 48:49

five years experience into trying to make sure that Resident gets what they need to be successful out in the 48:56

confession so that means we needed to have a commitment to diversity within the profession and that that so that was 49:03

kind of the starting point and having those kind of conversations to get the organization on board 49:09

we've had a diversity committee uh all that kind as well it's not a variety of different things the programs speakers 49:16

surveys things like that and so they've been a partner in all of this from the 49:22

Lis point of view um about 12 years ago we went to a group

49:27

meeting and did an imls grant for a Scholars that's the academic academic

49:33

and cultural enrichment Scholars and the goal was to improve diversity within the 49:39

profession so subsequently we've had uh and over three cohorts so we graduated 49.46

approximately 50 people in those three cohorts with this imls funding that

49:51

helped support the Waverly College in order to get diversity in the profession and and that was really critical in the 49:59

sense that it was a shared responsibility between ILS and the libraries between Court viewing

libraries such as Wanda she was one of them the mentors who helped these young

professionals complete their academic coursework and and get out into the profession to be successful 50:17

so that also took a lot of change and the other thing that Elena mentioned was

50:22

intention so a lot of this had to have intention behind it to make it successfully and uh

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and and she talked about conflict that was making notes when she talked about conflict and yes that that happens and 50:38

and so you have to have a plan and I'm talking about in terms of uh uh it takes

50:43

all of us the village The Village has to have a plan to mitigate conflict because

50:49

it's going to happen and it might be something small it's misunderstanding their personalities but it also could 50:56

expand and put a big picture of how someone actually feels about uh the

51.01

profession and where they're headed and stuff like that kind of like the business like they're an example that she was using 51:07

the other thing we did that I wanted to mention that's kind of significant here is once again a collaboration between 51:13

the libraries and the Lis Department with a program we call real learning connections and this was a geared 51:19

specifically for diversity although it had a lot of the most elements in it but it was the learning culture that is the 51:26

value there and what we were doing was uh developing projects in the library that grad students could

apply for and the library School wouldn't have a faculty sponsor and the

51:41

goal there was financially the library School provided the tuition labor and the library provided that site in for

substance but you have a librarian project had and then you had a student

51:55

you didn't have the faculty member so it was a three-way learning opportunity and

52:01

we tried to infuse that learning mentality and the rest of the

52:06

organization so that people understood that it's not just about them so it's not just about you know if you have a 52:12

student doing an internship or a crack income or something like that it's it's not just about the extra pair of hands 52:20

um you learned something from everyone you meet that whatever at whatever level they're at and so we've learned as a 52:28

Podium and great cell culture to learn from the folks that we're working with you know the students uh like I said in 52:36

those practical practicum or intensive environments project environments the

52:41

residents who are now new professionals um with us they come with experiences

52:47

and perceptions that the rest of us don't have so we've had to learn to to uh uh to get

52:55

to get through the clutter in order to understand who they are and what they're about and what they have to offer now I 53:03

tell you all that just helping China formulate your own questioning the ones out there interviewing or working in 53:09

organizations a lot has changed in the last few years to the better with our

53:14

Diversity Program was going with hcrl University Alliance years ago and now we

send our residents to this the idea behind that was so that a lot of

53:26

Institutions only have one or two this forms a cohort which allows the

53:33

residents to actually uh you know interact with people in the same situation they are and compare notes in

that point of view all this stuff takes support and that's something to be aware of so A diversity 53:47

resident line here in our libraries takes away a line that we would be using

53.52

for something else and that that doesn't sound like a big deal but it can be especially in

53.58

tough budget guides and that's it that's always been something to try to make sure we protected at the line so the 54.06

investment that's being made in a program like that is is first of all an appropriate question to ask but second 54:14

of all it is something to be aware of so that if you are a mediating contract sometimes those conflicts evolve around 54:21

the use of the resources but like I said we are we have progress

54.26

we've gone from one person to seven or eight now I didn't come up exactly but

54:31

we we are growing in that regard our campus is growing so we are now in

54:37

minority starting institution and so it's important for us to represent our

54.42

students we are close to becoming a Hispanic so I think it's producing same

54.47

thing it's important daily uh would look and build a part to represent our students so those are the kind of

54.54

homework things that you can dig into to find out uh from a campus perspective uh where they stand you know what kind of 55:00

diversity issues are they pursuing uh if things get wrapped around a lot sometimes having a chief diversity

officer even if only if a campus has that and I'm sorry I'm focusing on academic but if a campus has that that's

great but that's that's an easy point to kind of and invite more information and

55:20

deeper conversations and things like that looking at what either an Lis

55:25

program or the library but doing can make a bigger difference in my opinion uh we thought you know we take our what 55:33

we do on the road sometimes and uh presented State conferences or some of

55:38

the consorts that are like eight zero that I was mentioning earlier so it it is all about all of us it's not about

55:45

written one or two it's about all of us making a difference in raising the bar of diversity in our professional

thank you thank you Michael

55.59

my face is gone okay thank you I um appreciate your intentionality and I

56:07

think that we've had two speakers and both of them have given us examples of

56:12

how intentionality is essential our next speaker is going to talk even more about

56:19

intentional efforts and so um at this time we're gonna have uh Kevin uh Watson

56.27

come aboard and he's going to introduce himself and talk about his intentionality

56:32

Kevin hi good afternoon Wanda panel um and everyone that's uh online I'm

56:39

Kelvin Watson I am the executive director for the Las Vegas Clark County Library District and as previously 56:45

mentioned by Elena and Michael you know some of the things that I would share with you and you know my my experiences

um having served as the past bcla president the I've been executive director for Las Vegas for two years and 57:00

prior to that I was at the Broward County libraries for four years in Florida

57:05

so some of my recommendations to Foster and ensure Equity diversity um and inclusion in our profession is

through mentorship one of the things that um that I have been able to participate in is both

57:21

formal and informal mentoring um bcla the black caucus of the American Library Association

57:27

um when I was not a librarian actually um I was mentored by many bcla members

57:34

including uh Wanda Brown who was on this call you know

57.40

leadership in being intentional as mentioned Again by Elena and Michael you

57:47

know you can have action statements um but you actually need to really be

57:53

intentional with measuring the outcomes that you uh that you have and that's something that I've learned as a leader 57:59

to implement do succession planning and recruitment those are other intentional $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) \left(1\right) \left$

58:05

aspects one of the things that I implemented as a leader in Broward County as well as in

58:12

um that I do at Las Vegas is I've started for our staff and really is

58:19

focused on diversity equity and inclusion is as I've implemented a new employee Roundtable so I meet quarterly

with uh staff members who've been with our Organization for three years or less

58:31

it's open to you optional um but it's an opportunity to sit with me

58:37

um a diversity candidate uh who participated in the Spectrum scholarship program the ARL uh program as well to 58:47

recruit diverse candidates so I'm able to share my personal experiences and

58:54

allow the staff to hear from me one of the things um that I also want to share

59:01

with you is um I I'm a 100 black men member of the Las Vegas chapter and one $\,$

59:08

of the things that they say is what they see is what they'll be so you have a

59:13

opportunity to see a uh an African-American male Library director

who is mentoring all of my staff and being very intentional about everything that that I'm doing so you know providing ways to not only 59:30 locally be inclusive but also nationally as well and that's why I was 59:36 um open to participating in this in this panel discussion um and that is to touch every level of 59:43 of librarians to connect um and share these experiences other things that I would share with with you is to you know connect with all of the Ala the diversity um Affiliates um connect with other bipod members and you know you're going to need these opportunities and and to share I know jclc was just a few weeks ago and that was a great opportunity for librarians um to connect and and share experiences um 1:00:16 application of deia is certainly key to fostering and ensuring that Dia diversity equity and inclusion becomes part of your DNA you 1:00:30 have to challenge yourself you have to challenge others and sometimes as Elena and Michael pointed out it's not easy it 1:00:37 is conflict um I can give you many many stories of in my career where I've had uh an 1:00:46 opportunity to be promoted for example and and had the leadership say that they weren't ready for me that happened early 1:00:53 in my career when I worked for an organization that was affiliated with libraries um I've I've also been on job interviews as well where I've had to uh and Elena pointed that out uh you know with her example of I was asked questions that other non-diverse candidates were not asked and I've actually turned those jobs down and walked away from those 1:01:17 opportunities so it's really about being committed to diversity Equity inclusion not only within yourself but also sharing it with others some of the other things I want to share with you is um where we've started a diversity 1:01:31 um uh committee within my current Library Las Vegas really reinvigorating 1:01:37 a committee that was already there standing it up we're doing surveys we're 1:01:43 assessment we're doing assessments within our organization so that we know how to move forward and it's one of the 1:01:50 things that I did when I promoted this committee was sent out a communication to the entire library and I don't actually have a position that's called Chief diversity officer um and one of the reasons is because I serve as the chief diversity officer so all of the staff that works with me you are then anointed I say to also be focused on diversity equity and

inclusion and the last thing that I'll say um as I pass it on you know to other panelists

1:02:17

1:02:23

and you know look forward to your questions is that you know again one of the things that um that I want to reiterate is 1.02.30

what they see so what they see in you if you're doing this work they'll also be

1:02:37

others around you will also be contributing to the success of diversity

1:02:43

Equity inclusion within your organization uh as you continue on in

1:02:48

your profession uh in libraries thank you

1:02:55

thank you Kevin before you leave though can you tell us just one little story about how you've invited The Uninvited 1:03:03

to your life okay so uh thanks Wanda that's that that's my that's my ongoing key term

1:03:11

that I use um as a library director in Broward and also in um in Las Vegas so I use this

1:03:20

term called inviting The Uninvited with not just the staff but it's really about the community it's opening up resources 1:03:27

and making them available making people feel welcome that's a that's an active

:03:32

thing that you can do right it's not just about um the you know when you when you put

1:03:40

that in place right and you share that and that's something that is Again part

1:03:46

of your DNA it's a part of the organization's DNA so if they know that everything that we do for our libraries 1:03:54

in our community for our staff is about inviting people that don't feel

1:04:01

welcome and haven't felt welcome that's gonna that's the key that's the keys to success and I think that's what's made 1:04:08

the libraries that I've had the opportunity to work with be successful uh in our communities through the 1:04:14

different programs that we offer one being one example I'll give you real quick is that we offer digital access 1:04:22

to our community as well as visitors in Las Vegas on 400 buses that's what that

1:04:30

now that's actively pointing out that everybody can have access because you'd be surprised how many people ride the 1:04:36

bus here in Las Vegas and that program that we launched in 2021 has now uh been

1:04:46

that when I looked at the stats the other day that's 12 of our overall ebook

1:04:51

usage are the people who are riding the bus so that's what I that's what I'll share and look forward to your questions 1:04:58

again thanks Wanda thank you Kevin thank you very much um we'll move next to Dominique this

1:05:07

Dominique coming to share with us and introduce yourself thank you hello everyone I am Dominique Dozier I'm 1:05:14

a Student Success librarian at Santa Clara University um I am I support first year first

1:05:21

generation and transfer students and our critical thinking and writing courses and I'm also the subject librarian to 1:05:27

women and gender studies and ethnic studies so I'll be sharing my perspective I was a recent graduate of 1:05:33

San Jose State's high school program in 2021 so my perspective stems from what 1:05:39

I've learned in graduate school as well as what I'm currently seeing right now is an early career professional so just 1:05:46

as Kelvin mentioned utilizing those relationships that you could establish with cultural organizations for those 1:05:52

that are current students right now especially students bipac students you

1:05:58

want it you want to be able to see how to find this information from your school and if they're communicating it 1:06:04

to you right so we when we think about diversity Equity inclusion is this currently happening in your program so I 1:06:11

can can remember a story of you know it was my second semester in the program and I I was just learning as much as I 1.06.19

could I was taking these courses I was learning all about the Ala and I happened to see an email

um from one of the past presidents of bcala could have been killed this um and they were having an information 1:06:29

session right and they were um inviting all um black students to come and sit in on the zoom and so for 1:06:36

me that email that the ischool program shared with me was impactful so for some

1:06:41

of the leaders in you know the the directors in these um libraries make sure that you are sharing that 1:06:49

information with students um with with people in your program right because if it's available to you 1:06:54

and you know that you can connect possibly with someone within your culture and hear about their experiences 1:07:01

and wisdoms um the same that I've um listened to with Dr basley and Miss Benny Wilkins

1:07:06

it's it's very important and from that I was able to become an active member in the BC ala which stemmed into me 1.07.13

learning more about the California Librarians Black Caucus which is you know a great addition to the networking 1:07:20

capabilities and then also um making sure that not only when you are

1:07:27

receiving the information from the the program is also to make sure that you are being active and communicating with 1:07:33

organizations right so that's also um very important and then next um like Elena mentioned earlier applying to the 1:07:40

positions um coming out of graduate school I know that we're all very excited you know to have those 1:07:45

applications and you know the interviews are coming and we're looking at our responsibilities and our um our duties 1:07:52

and the salary requirements those are great but just remember to look past the

1:07:57

application um what and and remember the things that you've learned in your graduate program right what are the Strategic plans of

1:08:05

the school right what are some what are some of the things that they're doing what is their mission so it's always important to take that to in account

1:08:11

when you're looking at whether those um the the job interest the jobs that

1:08:16

you're interested in are supporting Equity diversity and inclusion and when you're doing so

1:08:22

um you're able to see how you you see yourself in the position so for me personally when I was applying and it's 1.08:30

challenging to apply for those of you that are in the process I was looking at the Strategic plans right and then I 1:08:36

discovered Santa Clara and I discovered that they wanted to be this social justice library and I looked at the 1:08:41

things that they were currently doing right and and the things that they were proposing and I wanted to be a part of 1:08:48

it because you have to imagine yourself as this person that's going to be in this position and how are you going to 1:08:53

actualize it right how are you going to be a part of this social justice library and so for me 1:08:59

um as a as an instruction librarian in this position I've um I continue to $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) \left(1\right)$

1:09:05

immerse myself in like the trends you know what what are where what are people currently discussing 1.09.11

um what are the Articles talking about joining webinars like this one it's all the way for continuous learning and it 1:09:17

helps with professional development um I recently completed a micro credential with AQ the associated 1:09:24

College of Educators and that was so impactful um the course taught us how to use 1.09.30

evidence-based practices to influence um well to engage in students right and 1:09:37

so one of the things that I learned that as I'm joining this social justice library and seeing myself in this 1:09:43

position is how can I use these tools to improve and enhance my instruction sessions with students and so one of the 1:09:51

practices that I developed and I just I continuously use and I can see how it creates this welcoming and inclusive 1:09:58

environment with students it's inclusive language right and I know a lot of us we 1:10:03

State our name Dominique Dozier she her and things of that sort and so it's also 1:10:08

looking beyond that and I think that that's something that you can carry with you how are you expressing confidence 1:10:14

you know with you with your students how are you creating this welcoming inclusive environment for all are your 1:10:21

instruction plans accessible all of those things that all those things are helping to advance the efforts of 1.10.27

whether something is diverse and includes and inclusive to all right and then one of the things that our library 1:10:33

also and we recently developed which is really exciting is a community of practice and this community of practice 1:10:39

is open to everyone in the library that is interested in um instruction and teaching and it's us

coming together to look at some of the tools like our peer review of teaching and how can we change that 1:10:52

um to support our students in ways that are we're just not basing what we are 1.10.57

doing in the classroom on certain metrics is our classroom welcoming is our classroom inviting our students 1:11:04

encouraged to learn all of those things right so when you're in when you're looking for these positions and you're 1:11:10

trying to decide whether this is something that you're interested in look at the mission of the library and act 1:11:16 and see yourself in that position and um know that it's not a one size fits all 1:11:24 this is a learning process this is why we're all here sharing um conversations and dialogue can be 1:11:31 very challenging around what you and your mind internalizes diversity and inclusion but be willing to have those 1:11:37 conversations and build those community of practices um with your peers in the library if 1:11:43 you're if you're able to and um just know that by all of us doing this work we will continue 1:11:50 um to make changes in librarianship and I think that that's the most important thing to get out of anything that I've said is that when we are doing the work we are creating we are making this feel inclusive for us all thank you so much everyone 1:12:08 thank you Dominique I love your energy and your passion because I feel it when you speak and I thank you for sharing that with us today okay our next uh presenter is Miss Benny 1:12:22 Wilkins thank you I'm the Elder in the bunch 1:12:29 then about around librarianship for a lot of years 1:12:35 so I bring a historical perspective um to our conversation this morning um as well as um a current perspective on how we can be more diverse and inclusive 1:12:55 uh had experience in working in library Outreach 1:13:02 when it was federally funded and there was there was money to really get out there and work in in communities that was the minority services coordinator for the Los Angeles County Library organizing programming and and um Outreach with uh 91 different libraries in L.A County so I've had a a 1:13:24 breadth of experience I've also lectured in library schools and uh being a professional storyteller 1:13:35 I had written out my my notes um I'll typed them up 1:13:40 uh and it's surprising how some so many of the comments that I 1:13:48 intended to make um coincide with what has been said before in the interest of time I'm going to read parts of this um document so that uh we can get to the question and answer discussion what I wanted to say was that people coming out of Library school today

1:14:12

library and information Professionals in 2023 are entering a world of complexity

1:14:19 especially as it applies to the subjects of diversity equity and inclusion the American Library Association has advanced from an organization which held conferences and Facilities where African Americans were not welcome to [Music] 1:14:36 an entity now which advocates 1:14:42 diversity equity and inclusion despite this progress many critical 1:14:50 issues remain unsolved and require continued 1:14:56 actions and Lasting resolutions currently minorities seek roads to 1:15:03 advancement within a profession where their representation is approximately 10 percent 1:15:12 not enough censorship challenges directed towards 1:15:18 schools and libraries to exclude books and visuals by and about marginalized 1:15:23 communities are increasing 1:15:28 when you think of these large matters 1:15:33 how does a person begin in this profession 1:15:40 and I wanted it to a zero in on a few practical suggestions some of them overlap with what has been said before but they borrow they they need to be 1:15:53 repeated one of the things that uh the speaker talked about was a studying your job 1:16:01 description to determine whether the the work demands include elements of your 1:16:07 interests and your passion remember work takes up 1:16:14 approximately half of our lives and we need to have within that work process some opportunities to zero in on our own goals and Passions within the sign within the context of the of the job and the demands of the job the descriptions of the job remember to set your own personal goals 1:16:48 someone has mentioned before and I think Kelvin and others uh agreed that there's power in to gain by connecting with and participating in Professional Organization 1:17:00 the ethnic caucuses of cultural groups can provide immeasurable support 1:17:08 now the issues facing each group will differ but many will be General such as censorship 1:17:19

our speaker also asked of us something that is very important and that is

1:17:27

try before you take a position to learn about the culture of the organization 1:17:34 well for which you may be working authorities are in key positions how 1:17:40 does the does the library present itself to the community visit the site and observe the Ambient 1:17:47 Energy of daily proceedings and I wanted to add one very important 1:17:54 thing and that is if you can get a copy of the budget 1:18:01 the budget more than any document and anything you can view 1:18:07 gives you [Music] an idea of the commitments of the organization that uh with which you plan to join and if you can possibly do it 1:18:18 take a look at it you'll see where the main money goes and you'll see where minorities attacked 1:18:27 on at the end of the budget in questionable attainable 1:18:32 um uh positions that are are may or may not be funded 1:18:38 own a new job you have some responsibilities as well and that is to 1:18:43 introduce yourself to the staff they're going to be looking at you particularly if you're a minority 1:18:50 um with with questioning eyes and don't 1:18:55 forget the non-professionals be equally congenial at all levels 1:19:03 because staff support is critical to success some of those non-professionals may even be your entry into a community a marginalized Community which you wish to to access 1:19:22 now one of the mistakes that new in librarians make is when they enter 1:19:28 an organization they 1:19:36 do not make proper contact with the on-site 1:19:43 professionals these people are not your enemy but they do not 1:19:51 wish to have someone come in and 1:19:57 know it all these people also have insights into the organization that you need so measure your approaches carefully 1:20:10 to the staff on site 1:20:15 and recognize their expertise there may be times down the road when 1:20:21

you there will be competition but it should not surface during your

1:20:26 early entry into the profession minority professionals can bolster knowledge about bear barriers to overcoming uh the the barriers that they will face as they enter the profession by reading some of 1:20:49 the materials that have been written by by minority professionals there's the EJ 1:20:54 Josie's whole series that was written by uh black Librarians those issues still exist and there are a lot of insights given by 1:21:06 those people who talk about their experiences breaking into the profession and trying to find their way in a profession uh in which they were 1:21:17 marginalized if you are unfamiliar you start learning about and connecting with the community that has already been mentioned a simple drive around a walk around the site 1:21:32 um where you may be working will reveal a lot of information and I agree with the speaker stop in someplace have coffee and chat with the workers on site 1:21:43 and you'll learn a lot about the community and a lot about the attitudes about the place uh where you may be working you'll make more formal contacts with political Representatives cultural organizations ethnic museums Galleries and more but that will come later 1:22:04 now regarding Equity the larger question for the day huge issues Loom 1:22:11 what does Library Outreach mean in 2053 1:22:18 the infusion of artificial intelligence is already present 1:22:25 yet we still have large populations still in poverty literally hungry and starving for information needed to survive the Cyber tools of artificial intelligence are invading the world of 1:22:44 information faster than most experts imagined a few years ago speaking at the American 1:22:51 Library Association I noted what a futurist had said about libraries that eventually they would be walls where images could be projected 1:23:04 and a person like Winston Churchill 1:23:10 would answer all queries about himself well that technology is already acted enough information about people and places has been gathered subrosive so

1:23:23

that Holograms can eerily duplicate a person and be projected placing them 1:23:30 virtually in any setting also in recent weeks the AI Wars to 1:23:37 replace search engines such as Yahoo and Google have advanced 1:23:42 will these developments contribute to the expansion or demise of libraries 1:23:50 who will control or monitor the Al Associates for accuracy and fairness 1:23:58 is aala developing strategies and policies to respond and how does this affect information access will people and places already in the margins become invisible I want to tell you a story about one place where I worked and they had problems with the homeless 1:24:23 people and and others living on the fringes of society I arrived for a meeting and wrote up on the elevator and found that there was quite a turmoil going on 1:24:37 there were people gathered all around and they were clapping and cheering 1:24:43 and when I moved into the crowd so that I could see what was going on 1:24:51 in the middle of this circle was one of the library records regulars 1:24:57 whom the the guards knew and he was putting his dancing dog through his exercises and performance roll over Rover jump Rover 1:25:13 at the cloud crowd would clap clap clap but there was no dog the dog was invisible 1:25:27 it was indeed a virtual dog 1:25:32 the serious question becomes will libraries continue to exist for the public good keeping facts about human existence from becoming invisible or will artificial intelligence and the age 1:25:47 of robotics transpose humans into dancing dogs 1:25:53 commanded by corporate Creed thank you 1:26:01 thank you Miss Vinnie I hope not but I'm sure that day is coming I hope it won't completely replace us maybe it'll I'll be out there with it out there on that oh thank you so much 1:26:15 yeah we'll see uh okay um Miss Stephanie bring us up thank you Wanda and good morning everyone my name is Stephanie brasley 1:26:33

and I am the dean of the University Library at California State University

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Dominguez Hills and I am delighted to participate and to contribute to these

important things I appreciate all the

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comments that our previous speakers have said and also to Benny for setting and 1.27.01

historical backdrop for the current um Dei or EDI work that is going on 1:27:10

and I'm going to be adding to the list that has already

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been talked about of things that professionals can do but

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I would like to focus my comments on avenues that Foster and Ensure 1:27:27

Dei and that new library and information professionals will need to thrive 1:27:34

I'm approaching this in two ways from a collective and an

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individual perspective so first I want to discuss some essential approaches 1:27:48

taken by academic libraries collectively to

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advance and support diversity equity and inclusion and then touch on some of the 1.28.00

newer Innovative efforts being undertaken by libraries to engender 1:28:05

equity and inclusion and then secondly I would like to speak to what

new information professionals might consider individually as they strive to 1:28:18

understand the culture around diversity ethnic uh diversity equity and inclusion 1:28:25

in their new positions and then how they can prepare themselves to thrive in 1:28:30

these situations that they encounter I I do want to acknowledge upfront that 1:28:39

I have as many questions as I do suggestions for making a successful entry into the 1:28:46

profession but first let me um speak collectively about

1:28:52

some of the traditional activities that academic libraries and others have 1:29:00

undertaken concerning um diversity equity and acute inclusion

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and for brevity I'm just going to say Dei um but this work has traditionally over

the past two two and a half decades centered around recruitment efforts that 1:29:21

have included programs for professionals support staff to encourage those working

in libraries to pursue the degree and also post mil Lis academic Library

residency programs which Michael covered um very well

1:29:42

because many managers and libraries focus on numbers there's been much less emphasis on retention which is inextricably aligned with 1:29:55 inclusion and equity and that's why I was so happy to um hear Elena's excellent remarks on 1:30:05 inclusion earlier in our program today at some libraries work has been done to 1:30:12 make recruitment ads more welcoming and to expand where they are they Place 1:30:19 their position announcements when I was at UCLA we had a task force 1:30:24 that focused on changing language to be more genetic genetic sorry y'all generic haven't had my coffee this morning so that people with transferable skills would be eligible to apply also mentoring programs as I believe it 1:30:47 was Kelvin who mentioned those for early career Librarians and professional support staff have been one way of 1:30:58 promoting Dei in terms of Library instruction and 1:31:04 information literacy the traditional efforts 1:31:09 emphasized more inclusion of different groups perspectives and lived 1:31:17 experiences when teaching information literacy Concepts so for example um when teaching some of the acrl information literacy standards which later evolved into the greatly improved information literacy framework Librarians would be sensitive to using examples from different groups or identities whether they be 1:31:45 racial ethnic gender oriented or LGT 1:31:50 lgbtg members in order to highlight diversity 1:31:58 um also um there were some good things done with respect to cataloging 1:32:06 classification and um archives and special collections so 1:32:12 in terms of cataloging uh Sanford Berman was a Trailblazer in promoting 1:32:17 alternative viewpoints in librarianship particularly as a Critic of biased headings in the LC subject headings the Library of Congress subject headings in the early 21st century there weren't huge waves of changes in terms of how archivists approached the lens through which they determine items of importance in collections particularly when they 1:32:43

were looking at collections of people of color the teachings and Lis programs

1:32:49 were centered around Western knowledge and ways of knowing however in recent years there have been exciting and impactful changes in um the Lis field that has been influenced by 1:33:11 um Dei um and I have really been 1:33:17 revitalized by the body of literature that has emerged um in Lis that shines a critical lens on the way that libraries and information 1:33:30 professionals approach this work so this is really an exciting time so I'd like 1:33:36 to mention a few of these transformational and as Wanda and Kelvin 1:33:42 were uh also speaking to intentional approaches to try to promote 1:33:50 diversity equity and inclusion in our libraries so with respect to Recruitment 1:33:56 and hiring there have been some great new ideas to promote hiring that focus on high empathy inclusive improach approaches uh this semester my library 1:34:08 team is reading a case study 1:34:13 um from Grand Valley uh University's Library called a journey to hiring with heart and the edited work implementing excellence in diversity equity and inclusion a handbook for 1:34:30 academic libraries that was published last year they have some great ideas 1:34:35 that include reframing job description language to avoid 1:34:42 um implicit bias they also practiced empathy with transparency and 1:34:50 communication about their hiring process there have been several suggestions 1:34:56 about um reviewing and unpacking job descriptions job announcements and some of the recommendations that we hope to implement in our library are notifying unqualified candidates as soon 1:35:14 as possible instead of waiting until the very end of this process um sometimes it academic librarian positions can take anywhere from two to five months and SO 1:35:28 waiting until the end increases people's anxiety so by telling them very soon in 1:35:36 the process it increases um respect for the applicant's time also sending messages to the remaining

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pool of candidates in a timely fashion to let them know that

they do that they are remaining in the pool and to look for next steps 1:35:56 during the interview process we're going to try to provide more information about 1:36:03 the process itself and the people involved so at Grand Valley they 1:36:10 um provided candidates the names and a brief bio of committee members and they 1:36:16 had an invitation from the chair to reach out if they had more 1:36:22 um questions and a list of the library's core workplace principles 1:36:30 um there is also um expanding your reach in terms of promoting like on Twitter and attending conferences that focus on bypoc librarians in California we have good weather but 1:36:49 is it it is an expensive place to live so I saw 1:36:55 um something that UNLV had done um which was making a lib guide that 1:37:02 addressed issues around cost of living living and some uh Affinity 1:37:09 organizations and um a guide to Las Vegas and places to go 1:37:16 so um we're going to try to do something uh 1:37:22 about that as well in um 1:37:28 margins of of um oh no I don't want to mention that book 1:37:35 yet um the other thing that has been very good in in recent years is this 1:37:43 um elevation of The Narrative of people of colors lived experiences so the marginalized voices and lived experiences of Lis Professionals of 1:37:59 color have been elevated extensively in recent 1:38:04 web uh webinars podcasts articles and books for example 1:38:12 the um pushing the margins women of color and intersectionality in Lis that 1:38:20 is edited by Rose Chu and Annie foe has a wealth of narratives about experiences 1:38:28 of women of color and Lis and it's grounded in um critical race Theory black feminism and intersectionality studies also Maria arcardi's edited work that's entitled the feminist reference desk and feminist pedagogy for Library instruction also utilizes feminist pedagogy theory that 1:38:57

interrogates the hierarchical structures

1:39:02 and helps us to look at bypoc experiences when working both at the reference desk and also engaging in instruction another great um I think um transformative and galvanizing movement movement for diversity equity and and inclusion in 1:39:28 recent Lis history has been the focus on critical theory 1:39:34 um as seen in um work on critical librarianship 1:39:41 um critical Library pedagogy and feminist pedagogy so 1:39:48 in the introduction to critical Library pedagogy 1:39:55 um unedited work by trying I don't remember 1:40:01 pagowski and McElroy James elmborg who is a a seminal author on um many things in library and information science and also information literacy he provides a beef a brief 1:40:19 background in that work of critical theory saying that in essence 1:40:25 this critical Library pedagogy and critical theory was born in the social sciences as an alternative to empiricism and analytical approaches to 1:40:38 knowledge production and critical literary a library pedagogy 1:40:44 for libraries is part of this whole evolution of how we look at information 1:40:51 information literacy I'm excited about this next step in the maturation uh of 1:40:58 information literacy because as a former information literacy coordinator I am 1:41:05 glad to see the growth um be behind um critical Library pedagogy because it or pedagogy I keep saying that interchangeably because it reframes instruction in terms of looking at ways 1:41:23 to dismantle oppression and hierarchies and to reduce redis distribute power in the classroom for me it extends the notion of the 1:41:39 value of constructive vision is instructive Vision um placing librarian instructors not 1:41:46 only as facilitators or guides but also as proactive interrogators of the traditional ways that we have taught and planned instruction so there are a lot

1:42:00

of books now that help us to digest and understand how to do this another theory discussed in the literature is feminist pedagogy again Maria accardi's edited 1:42:14 work entitled the feminist reference desk and feminist pedagogy for Library 1:42:20 instruction utilizes feminist pedagogy theory that 1:42:26 interrogates the hierarchical structures to look at bipoc experiences when working both at the reference desk 1:42:33 that's one book and then also engaging um instruction critical librarianship is another concept that addresses equity and 1:42:46 inclusion by shining a critical light on the roles that libraries and information 1:42:52 professionals play in supporting and maintaining systems of a of Oppression 1:43:00 even either consciously or unconsciously 1:43:06 um so for those of you who are passionate about pursuing a position that enables you to teach this is very 1:43:14 exciting I recommend some of the writings of Gretchen Kier k-e-e-r 1:43:20 concerning critical pedagogy and information literacy 1:43:27 um critical archival studies and um have also 1:43:34 taken a major step forward and benefiting from these critical theories especially when you look at Community archives work there have been 1:43:45 intentional and proactive efforts to refrain the way that archivists decide 1:43:50 which is valuable what they're doing now is there is a lot more collaboration and 1:43:56 communication with the groups of color that these collections um 1:44:02 are intended and so that helps and 1:44:08 providing more understanding about a group's culture 1:44:14 and then finally in terms of Library collection services and practices 1:44:19 another great thing that is being done in which we did at our library and 1:44:25 Calvin Kelvin also mentioned our Dei audits some add a for accessibility or J for justice but these are positive steps in critically reviewing collection services staff and policies we had Dr Kawana bright at East Carolina University's um library and information Science Program could conduct our audit and it has been 1:44:54

really fabulous and we're working on her road map so now I want to very quickly switch

1:45:00 gears and talk a few moments uh about the importance of culture self-care cultural taxation agency and um self advocacy so as a new professional I offer these items for your consideration as you embark on a job as a new professional 1:45:19 first is culture there is a saying that culture Trump's strategy and that change 1:45:27 proceeds at uh and at the Speed Of Trust so 1:45:34 I suggest that you take some time to do an environmental assessment of 1:45:40 your culture of the library the subcultures find out who The Gatekeepers 1:45:45 and influencers are as you embark on your new position and also aligned with 1:45:51 culture is the idea of self-advocacy and seeing where in the organization their 1:46:00 opportunities for you to exercise agency to enable you to have both 1:46:08 additional power and resources to help you fulfill your professional goals and then after you have a sense of culture you can discern opportunities to contribute in those areas 1:46:23 white Librarians can also continue this work with allyship and with continuing 1:46:30 efforts to understand and contribute to dismantling racism when taking on a new position 1:46:38 you want to do your best and you're motivated to learn but this is where self-care and recognition of cultural 1:46:45 taxation comes in I would caution self-care 1:46:50 setting some minimal boundaries and prioritizing what you do to avoid 1:46:55 burnout cultural uh taxation is another area for people of color 1:47:02 as people with cultural knowledge others can often feel like they can call on you whenever there is something dealing with these Dei issues and you want to be helpful but you need to also know your priorities some academic libraries have Librarians as faculty and you have to go through the reappointment tenure and promotion process and you 1:47:29 want to be success successful in that but if you if your time and energy is distracted from all these other things 1:47:35 that can be a problem also some of you might have heard of phobosi etar's um 1:47:42 coining of vocational awe and her writings on that so you don't want to 1:47:49 get into some of these traps that Lis Professionals of color can run into if 1:47:55

these things aren't considered imposter syndrome and deficit mindsets

1:48:02

um I I encourage you to be careful of that you know imposter syndrome just 1:48:08 basically refers to to people and often this happens more to women and women of 1:48:13 color um where you doubt your accomplishments you you have feelings of self-doubt and 1:48:21 personal incompetence despite your ex education your experience and all of 1:48:27 your accomplishments so you know sometimes it it might make you feel like you're compelled to to work harder and to meet and possibly high standards that you set for yourself so yesterday I attended a good webinar on imposter syndrome if you feel like this is becoming you you should look into some of the writings on that and be a change agent not everybody 1:48:55 needs to be a change agent but if you are one that 1:49:00 um considers your environment and you want to see 1:49:06 change there's always leading at the Grassroots level 1:49:12 you know they talk about me leading from the middle but it's not always having to 1:49:17 be in a position where you are leading 1:49:22 and then finally I would say continue learning as Dominique mentioned it is 1:49:28 important to keep abreast of Trends and as I said there are so many books and articles and webinars um I've attended some of the um webinars 1:49:40 that Elena at the aserl have produced 1:49:46 and that continual learning keeps you fresh and keeps you motivated 1:49:51 thanks thank you Stephanie thank you for uh 1:49:58 ending on that note about attending webinars because we really want to thank everyone who joined us today and I thank 1:50:06 each and every one of your presenters for uh shedding um what I would cook consider to be 1:50:13 instrumental steps to move our students our recent graduates are new to 1:50:20 profession all of us forward uh do we have some questions we have just a couple minutes but do we have a time for 1:50:27 some questions certainly um let's see well we also have a job opportunity from shoshana if you want to put that in the uh or Alfredo if you could put that in the chat that's that's great um did have a question about Miss Bradley's book list so if we uh we will be posting this in the I Library as well 1:50:51

so um uh but Stephanie I think uh if we if you could include some of your titles

1:50:57 that would be great there's another question about the feminist pedagogy book um the title if maybe you can drop that in the uh chat as well and there is a question for Kelvin but I think Kelvin had to go to another meeting uh regarding quarterly new employee roundtables um question from Sylvia is do you share the conversation notes outcomes topics 1:51:21 with the rest of the library or perhaps just keep them to your uh to just the attendees and I don't know if anyone can speak to maybe uh something like that 1:51:33 um Wanda panel thoughts on that about whether you would keep the notes to yourself or share them out exactly I guess I would share them out unless 1:51:45 they you know unless they ask that we keep this in confidence I probably shared II think if you start where you start out sharing the minutes of the 1:51:57 sessions it'll do one or two things it'll make more people want to come and be a part of the conversation or it will shut it down you know so like if something is said they don't want so establishing all 1:52:11 those ground rules up front should should do it but I think that's a question we want to ask Kevin about 1:52:17 whether he shares it or does it not because it was for people who had been to the organization 1:52:23 in the last one to three years exactly right yeah new employees 1:52:29 so that could be interesting that's an interesting approach good question 1:52:35 um Benny uh did you want to provide any summation um and I know we were kind of going back 1:52:40 and forth as far as who would summarize but I don't know Benny if you have any final thoughts for us and then okay uh 1:52:47 um I I'll be happy to reflect on uh what's been said today I don't know about uh Kevin's um um a new program where he but it sounds very interesting I think if uh I I agree with Wanda that if it were my program I 1:53:05 would share it because some of the employees who've been around for a long time may have been holding some of those 1:53:12 same issues uh you know in their my hearts and um would be interested in in finding resolution to it so um if it were my program but I I'm not familiar 1:53:25 with enough with it um and and I want to say uh that that as 1:53:30 an elder Elder and um a hip shaking Storyteller former librarian and Library

School lecturer I am really proud to be part of this and I I'm proud of our

1:53:42

speakers and the wealth of information that they've provided for us it's been a 1:53:47 a very very interesting and successful morning Elena let us out uh by by giving 1:53:54 us the guidelines for an inclusive uh workplace and understanding what that 1:53:59 means and um Michael um gave us some information about a 1:54:05 long-term program and emphasize that um if you're going to have a commitment 1:54:12 to diversity you have to to think about it on a long-term basis and you have to 1:54:17 make a big commitment to it Kelvin um talked about mentorship which is 1:54:23 extremely important and I think I re-emphasize that that uh you should 1:54:28 talk to your um your compatriots um not only the ones who are part of 1:54:34 your culture but those who sympathize with you um as well from other cultures because 1:54:40 you you there's learning from from other culture uh experiences 1:54:47 um Dominique was was really uh pleading 1:54:52 with us to um share information with students to 1:54:57 to prepare them to get them ready to uh to face some of the issues that are 1:55:03 going to be facing them when they get out into the community and um and helping them to understand 1:55:11 um what a commitment to diversity equity and and inclusion really means 1:55:18 um I am interjected some questions about where we're going to go in in the future along with a little bit of um of information 1:55:30 about the past uh it's it's too bad that we're bringing into 23-23 a lot of those 1:55:37 residual prejudices and um and racial biases that existed in the 1:55:42 past and uh in my own experience I think we also have to consider that we are 1:55:48 ambassadors for our ethnic group I've always considered myself an ambassador 1:55:54 for african-ness whatever your ethnic group is of or your passion is consider yourself an ambassador um for that and Stephanie Stephanie just 1:56:05 gave us all of so much information about where we can find written instructions for moving ahead uh to help the the profession progressed uh toward more diversity um and and equity and inclusion and my 1:56:27

final statement is the next steps will require professionals on all levels

1:56:32 including Library education and organized activities addressing services to step up and become part of the The Fray be active participate in processes which help push the profession forward 1:56:50 toward more diversity and our inclusion 1:56:55 remember what marginalized means marginalized means living existing and surviving in the margins of the story 1:57:10 power lies with those who control the narrative 1:57:16 the goal of diversity equity and inclusion is to bring 1:57:24 information and 1:57:29 accomplishments of those who have existed into the mo in 1:57:35 the margins in to the main narrative and making them an essential part of the action the progress of humanity is at stake and 1:57:50 thank you so again so much for including me thank you so much Benny that was a 1:57:55 wonderful summation uh Wanda did you have any final thoughts and then I've got a few questions she wrapped it up 1:58:00 very nicely put a bow on it very well thank you so much I just want to say 1:58:06 thank you and I did ask participants at the beginning to take notes and decide 1:58:12 what area you were going to go forth in I hope you've done that I hope you've 1:58:17 got some pointers to take you forward Anthony thanks for having us all here today absolutely Wanda and I just want 1:58:24 to thank uh let's give the panel a loud Round of Applause I guess emoticons or whatever you want to do thank you for your time I'm always humbled by the collective wisdom expertise and Excellence of our speakers so thank you so much I also want to thank our co-sponsor of the event the California Librarians Black Caucus uh we are going to drop uh their membership link there 1:58:47 so Fred if you could do that for me I appreciate it so feel free to support uh clbc and and also join 1:58:55 um their organization I also want to thank our hard-working and dedicated staff so Vivian zuo our events 1:59:01 coordinator Alfredo alcantar canvas administrator and zoom Guru Yori 1:59:07 tokunaga our EDI student writer Steve hargiton with Library 2.0 and Nicole

purviance our director of marketing for all of the work that they did to make this a success and this is an example of

1:59:20

my and our commitment to EDI something that UNCG Chancellor Gilliam told me 1:59:25

long time ago when I posed a question to him as faculty Senate chair what can I do what can we do as a faculty that best 1:59:33

support EDI and he said said just do something Anthony do something to help 1:59:38

it's an important message for us all and Michael I'm sorry if you've left already but I want to thank you for your kind

comments and I miss all of you guys in North Carolina and UNCG very much finally uh our full transcript and 1:59:51

recording of uh and summary of today will be in our new EDI I library and and 1:59:57

Alfredo is going to drop that uh in the chat as well and also please subscribe to our EDI YouTube channel uh because we 2:00:05

have a lot of wonderful things coming up so we have women in information coming up in March to celebrate women's 2:00:11

heritage month we also have Deaf culture and community and also Asian American 2:00:16

native Hawaiian Pacific Islander symposiums coming up in April also join Benny for our celebration of Juneteenth 2:00:24

day over the summer she will be back to enthrall us with her stories uh and her

2:00:29

wisdom and then a final note in order to support EDI as we have said many times today day please allocate time and 2:00:36

resources at doing the hard work to make it a reality in your respective environments it is not easy at all but 2:00:43

well worth the effort to attain a higher level being together foresaw anyway 2.00.49

thanks again for joining us again all of this will be posted online including the slide decks have a wonderful day thank 2:00:57

you thank you thanks everybody