

Dear Alumni Community,

In June 2020, the Alumni Relations team pledged to listen, reflect, and act in order to address the urgent need to dismantle racism and other forms of prejudice and intolerance at UMD and in our community. We made the following commitments at that time:

- We will use new and existing virtual programs to highlight the efforts of individuals and organizations whose work is related to dismantling racism.
- We will identify service projects that connect alumni with organizations that support the experience of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) in America.
- Under the leadership of the Office of Diversity & Inclusion, we have created a resource page for alumni that includes links to articles, toolkits, and community organizations for those individuals interested in learning and taking action.
- We will listen.

Accountability and transparency are critical if we are to find success in combating racism, prejudice, and intolerance. For this reason, included below are brief highlights of some of the actions taken by Alumni Relations in the past year to help address the problems of racism, prejudice, and intolerance:

- We created a new interview series, [Resiliency Webchats](#), that explores how UMD alumni demonstrated resilience while navigating difficult periods of their lives at UMD and beyond.
- Together with American Indian Studies, World Languages & Cultures, and other departments we hosted virtual reunions for alumni so they could reconnect.
- We created the Alumni Care Campaign, a joint effort with the College of St. Scholastica, UWS, Northwood Technical College, and Lake Superior College to generate donations of food, clothing, and personal hygiene products.
- As a team, the Alumni Relations staff read and discussed books on [antiracism](#) and the experience of [BIPOC Minnesotans](#).
- UMD Alumni Relations hosted a virtual conference centered on diversity, equity, and inclusion planning for alumni professionals.

As a team, we are committed to doing more to address systemic racism in the coming year. These actions will take the form of learning opportunities for alumni via virtual and in person programs, community service projects, alumni volunteer programs at UMD, and additional staff training.

If you have suggestions for how you would like to see Alumni Relations grow in this area, please contact us at alumni@d.umn.edu. If you are looking for resources on this topic, we encourage you to visit the Kathryn A. Martin [Anti-Racism Resources](#) website.

Thank you for supporting UMD. We are proud of the University, its students, and alumni. Together, we can continue to make this a better and more equitable community for all Bulldogs.

Respectfully,

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