



## **Anti-Racism Statement**

May 13, 2021

Dear Creighton University,

We are at a critical moment in Creighton's history where we are being called to address long-standing inequalities.

The All-University Committee on the Status of Women (CSW) at Creighton University reaffirms its mission to create an equally supportive environment for all women throughout the University. Thus, it is our responsibility to denounce injustice wherever we encounter it, learn, and listen to voices of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC), and to continue to make strides towards a more anti-racist society.

We recognize the role racism plays in shaping educational and work environments, including here at Creighton University. While we need to be cognizant of and address all forms of racism and discrimination, in particular the CSW is committed to addressing the heightened burdens felt by women, including many women of color. In addressing racism, it can be difficult, if not impossible to separate out gender-based or race-based oppression from other oppressions, such as by ethnicity, social class, religion, indigeneity, and disability. The CSW is committed to advocating for the empowerment of all women at Creighton, including those who are not white, those who are LGBTQIA+, those who are disabled, indigenous peoples, and those who experience other types of oppression. We cannot have the empowerment of women at Creighton University, without the empowerment of *all* women. We also recognize that what is portrayed as the empowerment of women is sometimes actually only the empowerment of *some* women, those who are white, upper-class, able-bodied, and heterosexual. The CSW aims to advocate for the empowerment of women marginalized in ways besides just gender to gain the true empowerment of all women at Creighton.

The CSW supports policies that contribute to the elimination of racism. We are proud of the statements issued by our university and fully support them (which can be found here [June 17, 2020 | Office of the President](#)). We are supportive of the work that Creighton has done to begin to examine systemic racism within our own community: <https://www.creighton.edu/about/diversity-and-inclusion>, but we recognize that these are just beginnings. As Father Hendrickson stated in his Juneteenth message to the community last summer, "We need to listen with humble hearts, and be prepared to take thoughtful and just action... [W]e are called to do more."

In our commitment to antiracism, the CSW will continue to promote discussion, dialogue, and activism. We will call attention to areas of concern when we see them arise. We will center the voices of women of color, and we will continue to advocate for policies that produce or sustain gender and racial equality at Creighton University. We will continue to do more.