

# Cornell University Intergroup Dialogue Project

Spring 2018 Newsletter

## A Word from our Director



During a visit to Cornell last September, Dr. Beverly Tatum, author of *Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria? And Other Conversations about Race* (1997), delivered a [lecture](#) about communication across racial and ethnic divides and posed a question that was on many of our minds - "So what do we need to do on our campuses?" Her potential solution - "the possibility of *dialogue as action*" - resonated with those of us connected to IDP. "I'm happy to learn...that there's an Intergroup Dialogue Program at Cornell," she said, "and my hope is that many students will participate in it."

Given that growth has been a primary focus of the past few years, stabilizing IDP seemed like a worthy and appropriate goal at the beginning of this academic year. We thought that we had achieved our goals for the program, and that we had reached our maximum capacity. In the last few months, however, the demand for critical intergroup dialogue on campus has increased beyond our initial vision. As Tatum stated in her lecture, "when we create opportunities for students to connect across lines of difference, it works."

The reality on and off campus and the transformative outcomes of IDP processes have led Cornell's student leaders and administration to increase their support for IDP, helping us create more opportunities for communication, collaboration, and leadership across difference. Our academic course for undergraduate students has already grown to 13 sections per semester, accommodating approximately 200 undergraduate students, and in the next few semesters we will be adding more sections to accommodate 250-300 per semester; we are designing a unique process for student leaders in Greek Life and student organizations, focusing on leadership across difference; in Spring 2019 we will launch our first program for Residential Advisors; and we are piloting several programs for faculty and staff.

Expanding IDP in these ways enables us to play a key role in manifesting a vision of an engaged and inclusive campus environment that supports a diverse community of students, faculty, and staff. Our hope is that several years in the future, Cornellians can look back to this moment as one at which students, faculty, staff, and administrators recommitted themselves to the ethos of "...any person...any study."

The IDP team is excited to continue growing and developing to meet the needs of our diverse community. Every day we encounter and collaborate with inspiring and passionate students, faculty, staff, and administrators who are committed to making Cornell a place where people are included, challenged, and supported.

~ Dr. Adi Grabiner-Keinan



Spring 2018 EDUC 2610 Team

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## Cornell Giving Day 2018

Thanks to all of you who chose to support IDP for Giving Day last year. 30 donors collectively raised \$5,651 for IDP! The funds raised, as well as other generous gifts from alumni, enabled us to expand our existing offerings for students, faculty and staff, as well as to develop unique programs for various groups and departments, including the Greek Community, the Johnson Graduate School of Management, Residential and New Students Programs, the Prefreshmen Summer Program, and Alumni Affairs and Development. Your support allows us to bring dialogue into more spaces and to have a greater influence on campus climate.



[Give to IDP](#)

Join us this Giving Day as we strive to create a more aware and inclusive Cornell!

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## New Developments

In the last year, IDP has played an increasingly important role in fostering an inclusive campus environment that supports a diverse community of students, faculty and staff. Our expansion continues as we work to meet the needs of the Cornell community and to promote the University's vision for campus experience. There is a growing demand for learning and practicing communication across difference on campus and the unique model of intergroup dialogue continues to show its effectiveness in this regard.



See below for more information about some of our recent collaborations!

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## New EDUC 2610 Topic: Nationality

Being awarded the [2017 Grant for Internationalizing the Cornell Curriculum](#) allowed us to add **nationality** as a new topic to EDUC 2610 last semester! This grant pushed us to further incorporate global experiences and perspectives, and provide students with content beyond a U.S.-centric framework.



**EDUC 2610's First Nationality Section**  
Co-facilitated by Baba Adejuyigbe '18 and  
Marisa Knox '18

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## Alumni Outreach

This past October, the Office of Alumni Affairs and Development invited us to facilitate a workshop for alumni in NYC. In addition to connecting current IDP facilitators with IDP alumni, it was also a great opportunity to collaborate with Cornell alumni and think more about how social identities affect our lives after graduation. We can't wait to bring dialogue to other alumni clubs around the country!

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## Leadership Initiatives

IDP will further impact the development of inclusive campus culture by focusing on student leaders as potential agents of social change in a new program for student leaders in Greek Life and student organizations, as well as in a training process for Residential Advisors. We are convinced that with the appropriate skills, tools, and experience, student leaders will have the capacity and desire to work in their spheres of influence in order to sustain inclusive communities. These new initiatives are the products of close collaborations among IDP, Student and Campus Life, and student leaders. Stay tuned!

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## New Course in the Johnson Graduate School of Management

In partnership with the Johnson Graduate School of Management, for the first time, we will be offering a 7-week, 1.5 credit course especially for JGSM students - **Leading Across Differences: Understanding Identity, Dialogue and Influence!**

[Learn more about the course](#)



## IDP in NYC: Current Facilitators and IDP Alumni

Left to Right: Emma Korolik '17, Stephen Masterson '16, Dustin Liu '19, Jordan Berger '17, Kevin Milian '15, Jazlin Gomez '16, MPA '18, Jonathan Avery '19

## Successful National Intergroup Dialogue Conference

IDP was honored to host the second biennial conference on intergroup dialogue this past June. With about 130 participants representing 37 institutions, the conference provided a space for attendees to be teachers and learners, sharing experiences and research in the growing field of intergroup dialogue.



[Read about it in the Cornell Chronicle](#)

## New Faces



### Natasha Steinhall ~ Program Assistant

We were thrilled to (re)welcome Natasha to the IDP team this past June! Natasha took EDUC 2610 in her senior year at Cornell and facilitated three dialogues after that. Now she joins us again as the Program Assistant working tirelessly to help expand IDP! Her insatiable hunger for dialoguing across differences has brought her back to the program that forever changed the way she sees and interacts with the world.



### Jazlin Gomez ~ Student Engagement Coordinator

We are happy to announce the addition of a new position to our team, the Student Engagement Coordinator. We are even happier to announce that long-time IDPerson, Jazlin Gomez has accepted this position and will be joining us in June! Jazlin has been working with IDP in many different capacities since 2014. As our program continues to expand, the creation of a position to work exclusively with student groups and their leaders to address intergroup relations in their communities became necessary and we couldn't think of a more qualified person than Jazlin.

DEVELOPING DIALOGUE ACROSS DIFFERENCE

