The Creating an Inclusive Campus (CIC) mini-conference is offered as part of our on-going college mission commitment to “intentional diversity in our life and work.” The goals of the workshop are to provide faculty and staff participants with the opportunity for continued growth in intercultural competence and to build skills in creating an inclusive campus and classrooms.

Continuing to move towards a more socially just institution necessitates the constant work of faculty and staff on their awareness, knowledge, and skills in the areas of anti-oppression and cultural competency. Moreover, this goal will improve student learning, engagement and retention.

Keynote will be delivered by Dr. Buffy Smith, Associate Professor at the University of St. Thomas Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice. Dr. Smith will discuss how the mentor-mentee relationship operates upon unwritten, informal rules that are determined by the European-American middle class values inherent in higher education systems. These rules pose obstacles to underrepresented students, because they are not only unwritten or “hidden” but also predicated upon a larger cultural framework disparate to those of the underrepresented students themselves. Dr. Smith focuses heavily on intersecting identities in this research, allowing for underrepresentation to signify the broad spectrum of racial, ethnic, class-based, and other minoritized identities.

8:30-8:45 Coffee, Tea, light snacks
8:45 am Welcome and Introductions
9:00 am Keynote by Dr. Buffy Smith
   Mentoring At-Risk Students through the Hidden Curriculum of Higher Education
10:00 am Break

10:15 – 12 noon Inclusive Pedagogies - Faculty workshop

Panelists will share information and experiences in creating inclusive classrooms through curricular content, inclusive language, and examining unconscious bias. Facilitators will provide time for guided small group discussions to share ideas and learn skills such as developing course content, managing challenging discussion and engaging all students. Provost Kaivola will join at the end of the faculty portion to discuss how the Center for Teaching and Learning and the Provost’s office can continue to support faculty.

10:15 – 12 noon Creating an inclusive campus - Staff workshop