

November 16, 2023

Diversity Realized at Illinois through Visioning Excellence (DRIVE) Committee

C.L. Cole, Media and Cinema Studies, GSW
Lance Cooper, Physics
Ollie Watts Davis, Music
Nicki Engeseth, Food Science & Human Nutrition
Wendy Heller, Psychology
Cindy Ingold, Library
Denise Loyd, Business Administration, Co-Chair

Colleen Murphy, Law
Yoon Pak, Ed. Policy, Organization and Leadership, Co-Chair
Monika Stodolska, Recreation, Sport and Tourism
Nathan Todd, Psychology
Nicolas Yunes, Physics
Heidi Johnson, OAE, *ex officio*
Nizam Arain, OAE, *ex officio*

Dear colleagues,

Thank you for continuing to serve on the Diversity Realized at Illinois by Visioning Excellence (DRIVE) Committee for AY 2023-2024. By recommending policies, developing best practices, and advising campus administrators, the Committee supports the Vice Chancellor for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion's (OVCDEI) efforts to recruit and retain outstanding faculty and postdocs from historically underrepresented populations.

Dr.'s Yoon Pak and Denise Loyd will co-chair the Committee this academic year and Alina Jackson, assistant to the Vice Chancellor for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, will provide administrative support. The Committee's charge for AY 2023-2024 follows:

1. Continue to administer the Illinois Distinguished Postdoctoral Research Associate and Visiting Scholars Program (DRIVE Postdoc Program) by: (1) selecting new postdocs for AY 2023-2024; (2) reviewing current postdocs' progress toward tenure-stream appointments in their departments; (3) facilitating consistent contacts among the Committee's members, postdocs, and mentors.
2. Plan the DRIVE mini symposium that will be collocated with the Call to Action symposium.
 - a. Session 1 will be a review of and celebration of all the work DRIVE has done.
 - b. Session 2 will be a visioning session for what the future of the work should look like at Illinois; the programmatic pieces; the domain or bounds; and the resources or infrastructure that would be needed.
 - c. Session 3 will showcase the current DRIVE scholars.
3. In view of the recent updating of the OVCDEI and OAE websites, review and recommend updates to materials related to the DRIVE Committee, including materials concerning faculty recruitment and retention, the workshops for search committees, and the DRIVE Postdoc Program.

DRIVE Postdoc Timeline

- Start advertising around December 6, 2023.
- Applications accepted until March 8, 2024.
- Committee members must have reviews completed by March 21/22, 2024.
- Notify units of the decision of their request by April 5, 2024.

Diversity, equity, and inclusion are top priorities for our campus, and I look forward to working with you to achieve our shared goals for our campus community.

Sincerely,



Sean Garrick
Vice Chancellor for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Cc: John Coleman, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost

