

# A CONVERSATION OF UNDERSTANDING

## “ Our Collective Responsibility: Confronting and Counteracting Anti-DEI Policies ”

Dear SIU Community,

Anti-DEI legislation has been introduced in over thirty-four states and passed in seven states. Legislation passed has banned DEI training, prohibited colleges from offering training, and removed DEI team members from higher education. National DEI experts will share their insights, experiences, and ideas for combating legislation that hinders diversity, equity, and inclusion. By fostering a conversation of understanding, we hope to collectively develop strategies and initiatives that promote positive change within our communities and beyond. We encourage you to bring your thoughts, questions, and suggestions to help us build a stronger, more unified front against anti-DEI legislation.

We hope that you will join us for this important conversation.

Students, alumni, faculty, staff and community members from across the SIU System are invited to join a live virtual discussion focusing on critical issues regarding equity and justice in our country and what we can and must do to address those issues within the SIU System and beyond. A question and answer session will follow where audience participants can use the YouTube comment section or submit questions before or during the event by emailing [doris.williams@siu.edu](mailto:doris.williams@siu.edu).

**NOVEMBER 28, 2023**

**12:00 PM - 1:30 PM**

<https://bit.ly/SIUConversation>

Conversations of Understanding have become a fixture across the SIU System and on our individual campuses. They are a series of exchanges where students, alumni, faculty, staff and the broader SIU communities can share their experiences and thoughts on a variety of themes related to antiracism, diversity, equity and inclusion. We want to be a model for others in higher education and be recognized as a leader in our region and beyond for our work in fostering understanding of relevant contemporary issues.



**Harrison Davis**

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Office of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion  
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**Andriel Dees**

*Vice Chancellor for Equity and  
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**Dewayne Morgan**

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