

June 6 2020

# WPI ALUMNI AGAINST RACISM

# AGENDA



## Introduction

Objective of the Meeting  
Who We Are  
Mission & Goal



## Strategy / Playbook

Timeline  
Plan of Action



## Review of Actions Outlined in Survey Responses



## Open for Ideas, Thoughts, Comments, Stories

# Objective of the Meeting



Introduction &  
Purpose



Collect Stories  
and Other Ideas



Tell you what's  
next

# Who We Are

## Lailah Thompson



WPI Class of 2016

Former PepsiCo –  
Frito Lay Manager

Current Harvard  
Business School  
Student Class of  
2021

Hometown:  
Brooklyn, NY

## Veda Booth



WPI Class of 2018

VSS Integration,  
Systems Engineer  
at Lockheed  
Martin

Hometown: Los  
Angeles, CA

Fun Fact: Loves to  
knit & crochet!

## Anne Harris



WPI Class of 2016

Process Engineer  
for Gemini  
Therapeutics

Hometown:  
Buffalo, NY

Fun Fact:  
Competed in  
Bodybuilding  
competition & a  
licensed nail  
technician

# Who We Are

## Nde Nkimbeng



WPI Class of 2018

Supplier Quality and  
Development Engineer  
at Carrier

Hometown: Lowell, MA

Fun Fact: Build  
websites & runs  
wpiblackalum ig page  
with Rita

## Rita Bagala



WPI Class of 2018

Construction  
Manager at  
Hensel Phelps

Hometown:  
Lowell, MA

Fun Fact: Learning  
how to roller skate



# Mission & Goal

Goal: Demand WPI take clear sustainable actions to address and advocate against racism

Who: The narrative is from **alumni of color** with the support of **all alumni that are against racism**

Perspective: Making demands and using our voice as Alumni who have experienced WPI, represent WPI, have power and are potential donors

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# Strategy & Playbook

Mobilize & Gather	Mobilize & Gather Alums
Build	Build Coalition with current faculty
Draft	Draft Letter of Actions
Meet	Meet with Administration & Submit Letter on Monday June 8, 2020
Follow Up	Follow Up Meetings to Ensure Demands are Met, Implemented & Sustained

# Your Concerns - Reoccurring Key Themes

Campus Police – De-escalation training, diversity training (stop harassing black students)

BLM incorporation in some aspect, trainings, modules

Overall diversity training for everyone; faculty & students

Series on Racism

Course on Black History, Racism, Contributions of Black Engineers incorporated in curriculum

More Black Faculty members, professors, students, diverse board of directors, black counselors

Real Forums to Discuss Difficult Conversations

Concrete Responses from WPI on actions taken

Involvement with local legislation – Worcester police, police brutality, transparency, etc.

Support local black businesses and organizations

Increased spending to support POC

Take Back the Narrative Night

Transparency on campus statistics

Move OMA closer to campus

Diversity statement integrated in curriculum or syllabus



# Questions, Comments, Concerns

- Some of you have already added items to be addressed.
- We welcome hearing the story behind the action item, if you would like to share.
- Example Topics:
- What is an example of something that made a difference positively at or after WPI?
- How has WPI failed you?
- What could WPI have done better to help you find a job and prepare for working as a person of color?
- What do your companies do that works to combat racism, promote diversity, and provide resources for inclusion? How could these translate to WPI's policies?
- How can WPI retain students of color in Greek life, in more difficult majors, at school in general?
- What do you wish WPI would add to the education of your peers?
- What do you wish WPI would add to the education of your professors?
- How can WPI help Worcester be a more inclusive city?