

Inclusive Excellence

Relevance of Affirmative Action: An Examination of Competing Perspectives

Thursday 3:45 pm; Panel 1

Charlie Williams, PhD

Abstract: This session will provide a historical, conceptual, legal, and political overview of Affirmative Action. The discussion will include an exploration of the polarizing viewpoints on Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity policies and inclusion initiatives. In addition to a review of the current legal landscape of Affirmative Action and Diversity; the following questions will be examined: 1) What is Affirmative Action? 2) What is Diversity? 3) Are Affirmative Action and Diversity Competing Concepts? The goal of the workshop will be to have an informed, open, and interactive dialogue on the status and legacy of Affirmative Action.