

## EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION INITIATIVE

### IDENTITY DATA AND SYSTEMIC RACISM RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

As one initiative focused on the Faculty's commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion, the Faculty is creating two fellowships to support research that examines the use of identity data in academic and policy research to address systemic racism.

One of the important ways the Faculty can contribute to tackling systemic racism is to support and encourage student research in critical areas of academic and policy matters related to the topic. One emerging issue of considerable importance is the role of race-based identity data in public policy and research in Canada.

Measuring the prevalence and effects of systemic racism to help guide policies and actions to reduce systemic racism can be challenging. In Canada, the use of race-based and Indigenous identity data collection has been limited and is the subject of current debate, particularly around COVID-19. Some changes are occurring, though. For example, Statistics Canada has started to expand its collection and reporting of race-based and Indigenous identity data. A further example is the Canadian Institute for Health Information, which released proposed standards for such data collection earlier this year.

The two fellowships are meant to encourage and support research that contributes to a greater understanding of these issues. Specifically, the fellowships are to support students in Social Sciences undertaking research that meets either of the following two criteria:

1. Examines the role of race-based and Indigenous identity data collection and dissemination to address issues of systemic racism in Canada.
2. Uses race-based or Indigenous identity data sources (qualitative, quantitative or critical) to examine issues of systemic racism in Canada.

#### Eligibility and Application Process

The fellowships are \$2,500 each, one for undergraduate students and one for graduate students. Eligible students must be enrolled in a degree in the Faculty of Social Sciences.

Applicants must provide all of the following (each in pdf format):

- a summary of their research (planned or in progress) between 300–500 words;
- a note of support from their supervisor;
- a current academic transcript

While there is no expectation that the research be completed within the current academic year, applicants should provide a timeline for their research.

The fellowships will be awarded on a competitive basis with the primary criteria the quality and novelty of the research and its alignment with either of the two criteria above; academic performance will be used as a secondary criterion.

The awards will be adjudicated by the Associate Dean Academic, the Associate Dean Research, and the Dean. Awards will be made by 1 February 2021.

Deadline for the applications are **4pm Friday 8 January 2021**.

Applications should be sent to [soscoff@uvic.ca](mailto:soscoff@uvic.ca).