

# A CONVERSATION OF UNDERSTANDING

## “ A Vision for Change: Insights on the African Descent-Citizens Reparations Commission ”

Greetings SIU Community:

Join us as we host members of the African Descent-Reparations Commission as they share their perspectives on their essential work as authorized by 20 ILCS 405/405-540. The Commission is charged with surveying the State procurement process to make recommendations, hold meetings, provide reports and discuss and perform actions concerning:

- Preserving African American neighborhoods and communities
- Building and developing vocational centers for People of African Descent-Citizens
- Advocating for proportional economic representation in State contracts
- Creating and enforcement of an Illinois Slavery Era Disclosure Bill

Following the dialogue, participants will have the opportunity to ask questions and share their thoughts. This Q&A session will allow for deeper exploration of the topics discussed and provide a space for open, respectful 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. Questions can be submitted during the virtual session as well as prior to the event by emailing [doris.williams@siu.edu](mailto:doris.williams@siu.edu).



Marvin Slaughter, Jr.  
ADCRC Board Chair



Rikeesha Phelon  
ADCRC Board Member



Dr. Ted Williams III  
ADCRC Board Member

**JANUARY 23, 2025**

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

Register here via Teams:

<https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/75c70dc7-472d-4b35-b7e1-8ca4c4d229f3@d57a98e7-744d-43f9-bc91-08de1ff3710d>

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.

Students, alumni, faculty, staff and community members from across the SIU System are invited to join a live 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 participate.

Sponsored by the SIU System President's Office, the SIU System Diversity Advisory Council, and the SIU School of Medicine



Southern Illinois University System

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