# How clear is your lens?

A discussion about diversity and strategies for inclusion both in and beyond the classroom

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Educating students to shape their lives, their professions, and their societies.



# Our Agenda

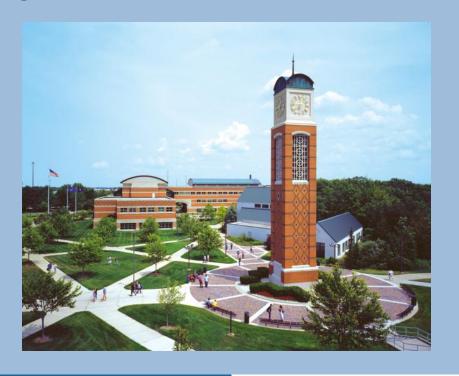
- Introductions & Background
- Purpose & Scope
- The Bee Sting
- Your opinion regarding inclusion by:
  - GVSU & Grand Rapids community
  - Student classroom environment
  - Student preparation for the workplace
- Rules for the road
- Concluding thoughts



# Introductions & Background

Muthoni Imungi, Ph.D., LMSW Director of Field Education & Assistant Professor School of Social Work

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# Purpose & Scope

This workshop initiates a conversation regarding:

- 1. Ways of creating an inclusive instructional environment for:
  - Faculty and staff, and
  - Students
- Techniques for helping students enhance their skills in creating an inclusive workplace upon graduation.





### The Bee Sting

Source: Demetri Martin (2011)
"Important Things with Demetri Martin",
Deltaskymag.com, June 2011, page 176

Are there any things in this story that someone might find objectionable?







# The Bee Sting (Con't)

Our world view is shaped by who we are & our journey

"Multiple sides to any story, yours, yours, mine & the truth"

This applies to us as well as our students

So..... the richness is in the diversity





#### TASK 1:

Write 3 things that would make you as new faculty feel more a part of the GVSU and Grand Rapids community.





#### TASK 2:

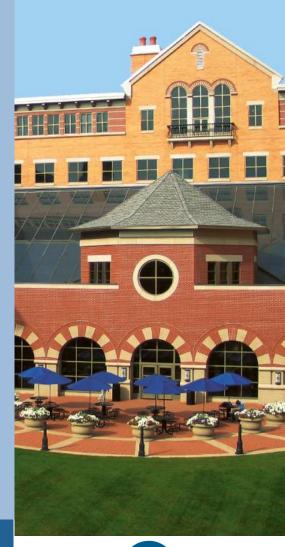
Write 3 things that you think would make our students feel more included in the GVSU learning community





#### TASK 3:

Write 3 things that you think would prepare our students for being able to practice inclusion in the workplace.





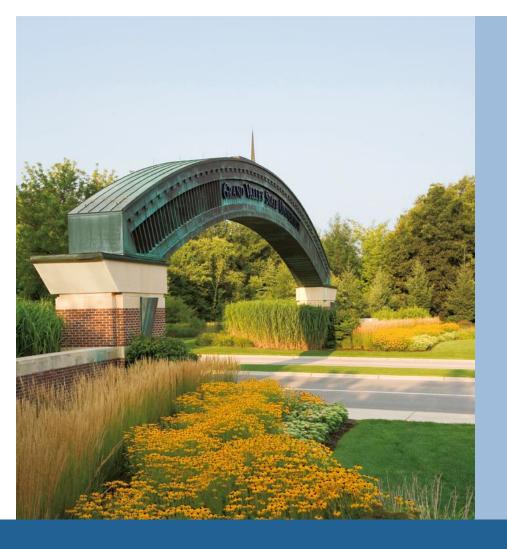
#### Rules for the Road

- We are all entitled to our opinion
- We will all have an opportunity to share our opinion
- The only silly or foolish idea is the one that is not shared
- No single person is as great as all of us combined
- We will treat each other as we would like to be treated
  - We will respect the opinions of our colleagues
  - Personal attacks are not acceptable

(Source: Scantlebury, M. (2008) "Rules for the Road (RFTR): Establishing a Positive Atmosphere for Learning", <u>Journal of Teaching in Travel & Tourism</u>, Vol. 8(4) pps 395 to 400)







# **Concluding Thoughts**

- Resources available:
  - Faculty Teaching and Learning Center <a href="http://www.gvsu.edu/ftlc/">http://www.gvsu.edu/ftlc/</a>
    - Diversity in the classroom <a href="http://www.gvsu.edu/ftlc/diversity-">http://www.gvsu.edu/ftlc/diversity-</a>
    - in-the-classroom-12.htm
  - Intercultural Competency and Experience
    - http://www.gvsu.edu/ice/
  - Inclusion and Equity Division <a href="http://www.gvsu.edu/inclusion/">http://www.gvsu.edu/inclusion/</a>
  - Disability Support Services http://www.gvsu.edu/dss/

