Our students come to UMSL with a wide range of experience and educational backgrounds. As educators, we have a responsibility to ensure our students are prepared to work in a diverse environment and collaborate with others who bring new perspectives. When we incorporate a variety of perspectives into our own teaching and offer students new ways of looking at their discipline, we prepare our students for the diverse workforce.
We strive to promote a campus community where all individuals:
• Will have an opportunity to increase their understanding and develop a deeper respect and appreciation for diversity in our learning environments, workplaces, and society.
• Can excel in their employment, educational, business and service pursuits without bias based on their unique personal attributes, i.e. socioeconomic status, physical characteristics, ethnic or cultural identity, veteran status, geographic location, etc.

The ODEI supports the vision, mission and values of the University of Missouri–St. Louis by providing services to the campus community which promote diversity, equity, inclusion, social justice and related areas. We support institutional compliance with all federal, state and local equal opportunity laws and regulations.

The ODEI works with campus leadership, units and organizations to ensure that the climate and culture of the campus promotes a welcoming and inclusive environment that supports excellence in teaching, service, research, employment and business practices. The ultimate goal is to build and maintain a community in which students, faculty, staff, alumni, visitors and others are valued and respected.

ODEI Services
• Develop and coordinate programs to celebrate and promote understanding and respect for cultural diversity and equal opportunity
• Develop and conduct training programs for all campus populations to educate the campus community on implicit/explicit bias, cultural awareness, equal opportunity, diversity strategies and social justice and related topics
• Develop, monitor and implement affirmative action programs
• Conduct climate surveys, develop organizational diversity strategies and implement appropriate initiatives and programs
• Develop and implement effective academic search procedures
• Collaborate with local and national organizations to promote and enhance campus and community diversity efforts
• Collaborate with UM System Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Office and other UM campuses to develop and implement organizational diversity goals and objectives
• Coordinate Chancellor’s Cultural Diversity Council membership and programs
• Review and determine requests for student religious exemption
• Develop and manage campus Inclusive Excellence Plan

Our Community
We strive to promote a campus community where all individuals:
• Will have an opportunity to increase their understanding and develop a deeper respect and appreciation for diversity in our learning environments, workplaces, and society.
• Can excel in their employment, educational, business and service pursuits without bias based on their unique personal attributes, i.e. socioeconomic status, physical characteristics, ethnic or cultural identity, veteran status, geographic location, etc.

UMSL respects, inspires, engages, values, accepts, understands, promotes and offers opportunities to our campus community.