EXPANDING TRHT CAMPUS CENTERS
TO DISMANTLE RACIAL HIERARCHIES AND BUILD EQUITABLE COMMUNITIES

Institute on
TRUTH, RACIAL HEALING & TRANSFORMATION CAMPUS CENTERS

June 16–19, 2020
Emory Conference Center Hotel
Atlanta, Georgia

APPLY TODAY www.aacu.org/trht20
Application Deadline: March 5, 2020
Among the most urgent challenges facing America today is growing racial, ethnic, and economic segregation. Increasing aversion to difference and rising distrust among communities nationally have left colleges and universities with the challenge of healing from the legacies and harm of racism. The Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) is partnering with higher education institutions to develop Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation (TRHT) Campus Centers to prepare the next generation of strategic leaders and critical thinkers to promote racial healing and to catalyze efforts to address current inequities grounded in notions of a racial hierarchy. As a national, community-based initiative, the TRHT effort seeks to address the historical and contemporary effects of race and racism within our communities. Each TRHT Campus Center prioritizes expansive, community-based healing activities that seek to change collective community narratives and broaden the understanding of our diverse experiences.

At the Institute, potential and returning TRHT Campus Center teams will identify evidence-based strategies that support their stated vision of what their communities will look, feel, and be like when belief in a hierarchy of human value no longer exists. Teams will participate in and design Rx Racial Healing Circles™. In addition, teams will participate in workshops and collaborate with experienced TRHT Campus Center mentors, workshop facilitators, and evaluation consultants to develop and/or refine their transformative campus action plans. The action plans will include strategic goals that align with each TRHT Campus Center’s vision and the existing TRHT framework, along with steps to achieve the goals. The action plans also will include a list of intended outcomes and strategies for evaluation, communication, stakeholder engagement, and sustainability.

Who May Apply
Applications are invited from teams at regionally accredited two- and four-year institutions who are interested in either learning more about the TRHT framework or hosting a TRHT Campus Center. Institutional priorities and goals for advancing social justice and equitable communities should align strategically with the TRHT effort. The Institute is also designed to support the continuing work of existing TRHT Campus Centers.

Preparation for the Institute
Prior to attending the Institute, teams will be asked to develop a vision statement, to identify possible community partners, to complete pre-Institute readings, and to reflect upon the existing TRHT framework and how the work aligns with their institutions’ strategic priorities. This preparation will allow teams to use their time together to identify strategies and practices for successful implementation of action plans that they will develop while at the Institute.
TEAM CONSULTATIONS AND INSTITUTE MENTORS

Participants will work with assigned Institute mentors from existing TRHT Campus Centers who are currently planning and implementing transformative programming to advance racial healing in collaboration with community partners. In addition to the planned mentoring opportunities, teams will be able to schedule consulting appointments with other mentors, AAC&U TRHT team leaders, national evaluators for TRHT Campus Centers, and experienced Rx Racial Healing Circle™ facilitators.

INSTITUTE CAMPUS MENTORS

Terry Barksdale, Austin Community College
Jermaine Pearson, Brown University
Charmaine Royal, Duke University
Jane Turk, Hamline University
Anita DeRouen, Millsaps College
Sharon Stroye, Rutgers University–Newark
Cynthia Neal Spence, Spelman College
J. Goosby Smith, The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina
Kaiwipuni Lipe, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa
Eric Ford, University of Maryland Baltimore County

INSTITUTE FACULTY, COFACILITATORS, AND SPEAKERS

Victoria Christgau, Connecticut Center for Nonviolence
Gail Christopher, National Collaborative for Health Equity and Ntianu Center for Healing and Nature
Jessie Daniels, Professor of Sociology, Hunter College; and Professor, Sociology, Critical Psychology and Africana Studies, The Graduate Center, CUNY
Jessica Estévez, Estrategia Group
Edwin Estévez, Estrategia Group
Dushaw Hockett, Safe Places for the Advancement of Community and Equity
Tia Brown McNair, Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Student Success, AAC&U
Mee Moua, Interdependent Group, LLC; and W.K. Kellogg Foundation
Lynn Pasquerella, President, AAC&U
Gwenn Weaver, Independent Consultant
Michael Wenger, Senior Fellow, AAC&U; Adjunct Faculty Member, The George Washington University
The Institute curriculum will support teams from existing and potential TRHT Campus Centers developing or refining transformative action plans to advance the five components of the TRHT framework: narrative change, racial healing and relationship building, separation, law, and economy. Together, these five areas encompass the individual, communal, and systemic structures that perpetuate arbitrary divisions based on race. This work will culminate in an opportunity for discussion with and feedback from mentors, participants, evaluators, and the AAC&U TRHT team.

Campus teams chosen to participate will

• develop and refine a visionary action plan to
  • create positive narrative change about race in the community;
  • promote racial healing activities on campus and in the community; and
  • eradicate structural barriers to equal treatment and opportunity within the economic, legal, educational, and residential components of the community;

• identify and examine current realities of race relations in their communities and the local history that has led to these realities;

• envision what their communities will look, feel, and be like when belief in a racial hierarchy has been jettisoned; and

• pinpoint and engage critical levers for change and key stakeholders.

The Institute schedule features

• daily team time to work on action plans;

• individual team consultations with Institute mentors, faculty, and evaluation consultants;

• Rx Racial Healing Circles™ to engage participants in building trust and understanding among diverse groups;

• a community event to engage and reinvigorate healing; and

• plenary sessions, concurrent workshops, and interactions with other campus teams.

“I came away feeling inspired, refreshed, and with concrete ways of moving forward with our next steps.”

—2019 Institute Participant
FORMING A TEAM AND CREATING A STRONG APPLICATION

Teams participating in the Institute typically consist of a team leader and four team members, including at least one representative from a community partner organization. Team leaders are often senior academic or student affairs officers. Teams should be diverse and include individuals from various campus sectors who will be significantly involved in the projected TRHT work, as well as key campus and community stakeholders who could extend the reach of the TRHT Campus Center. Given that the goal is to prepare the next generation of strategic thinkers, teams should consider inviting students to participate. In the past, teams have included faculty, deans, departments chairs, community liaisons and members, chief diversity officers, and students.

Application Components and Selection Criteria

The online application consists of an information section and a narrative section. The narrative should be clear and concise (maximum 1,500 words) and address the following prompts:

- The goal of the TRHT effort is to create positive narrative change about race in the community, to promote racial healing activities on campus and in the community, and to erase structural barriers to equal treatment and opportunity within the economic, legal, educational, and residential components of the community. Taking these factors into consideration, what is your vision for your campus TRHT efforts?

- What are your existing strategies for breaking down racial hierarchies and creating positive narrative change about race on your campus and in your community?

- What are the potential strategies your team would use to prepare the next generation of strategic leaders and critical thinkers to engage with communities in transforming America’s racial narrative into an ascendant one? What are your key leverage points for change?

- What is the campus and community context for this work?

- What meaningful alliances with key stakeholders, both within your institution and in the local community, would you engage and develop to help you achieve your TRHT vision?

Visit www.aacu.org/TRHT20 to apply online.
FROM PLANNING TO CAMPUS ACTION

During the Institute, teams will have time to develop comprehensive action plans. On the last day of the Institute, each team will participate in a Gallery Walk Poster Presentation that highlights key elements of their action plans. This is a valuable opportunity for campus teams to present, discuss, and receive feedback on the core components of their action plans. Participants will be encouraged to question and comment on action plans to help teams refine their work to meet their goals.

What Are Rx Racial Healing Circles™?

As the centerpiece of the TRHT Framework, Rx Racial Healing Circles™ are meant to ground the various elements of the TRHT methodology in a compassionate and expansive forum for sharing personal truth to help begin the process of transforming hearts and minds. The Rx Racial Healing Circle™ methodology stresses active listening, being open to the perspectives and experiences of others, and is based on “building a national organizational network and activating local action to promote racial healing and racial equity.”*

Rx Racial Healing Circles™ are cofacilitated by two experienced racial healing practitioners. Circles begin with an introductory exercise and are followed by a deep discussion prompt to which participants respond with stories in response to the prompt within an assigned dyad pair. Following a deep discussion, the circle reconvenes and participants are invited to share their stories with the whole group. The composition of circles and dyad pairs is planned in advance to be as diverse as possible, including racial, age, gender, and geographic diversity for maximum healing.

After participating in an Rx Racial Healing Circle™ cofacilitated by experienced practitioners, Institute participants will learn about the core elements of the racial healing process and gain experience designing and cofacilitating a simulated Rx Racial Healing Circle™.

*Dr. Gail Christopher at a July 18, 2018 Helsinki Commission Briefing.
APPLICATION INFORMATION

Application deadline: **Thursday, March 5, 2020**
Application form: [www.aacu.org/TRHT20](http://www.aacu.org/TRHT20)
Applicants will receive notification of selection decisions by **Tuesday, March 31, 2020**.

The registration fee for the Institute will cover tuition, materials, consultation, and most meals:
- $7,200 per five-member team from AAC&U member institutions
- $8,200 per five-member team from nonmember institutions

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Emory Conference Center Hotel for participants at a special rate of $169/night, excluding taxes and fees. Participants will be responsible for reserving and paying for their own lodging.

Teams may add team members for a separate registration fee, as space allows.

**Emory Conference Center Hotel**

**Atlanta, Georgia**

The Emory Conference Center Hotel is the ideal combination of a tranquil and convenient location with a visionary Frank Lloyd Wright design and an unparalleled dedication to service. Nestled next to Hahn Woods, a peaceful 26-acre nature preserve, Emory Conference Center Hotel is easily accessible by car. Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (ATL) is located 17 miles from the hotel.

Participants will stay in single- or double-occupancy rooms in the hotel and will have access to a fitness center, complimentary Wi-Fi, and an indoor pool/whirlpool. Team time, built into the Institute program, will allow participants to explore the surrounding areas and meet in a place of their choosing. Emory Point is located within walking distance from the hotel, a complimentary Emory Cliff Bus goes to area shopping centers and restaurants, and a complimentary hotel shuttle is available on a first-come, first-served basis within a mile of the hotel.

*Photos courtesy of AAC&U Staff and Emory University*
AAC&U SUMMER INSTITUTES

INSTITUTES FOR CAMPUS TEAMS
AAC&U’s team-based institutes offer campus teams a time and place for sustained collaborative work on a project of importance to their campuses, along with a curriculum focused on important trends, research, and best practices delivered by a resident faculty of educational experts and consultants.

Institute on General Education and Assessment
June 2–5, 2020 | University of Vermont, Burlington, Vermont

Institute on High-Impact Practices and Student Success
June 2–5, 2020 | Emory Conference Center Hotel, Atlanta, Georgia

Institute on Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation Campus Centers
June 16–19, 2020 | Emory Conference Center Hotel, Atlanta Georgia

Institute on Integrative Learning and Signature Work
July 21–24, 2020 | American University, Washington, DC

Institute on Teaching and Learning for Campus-wide Interfaith Excellence
July 21–24, 2020 | American University, Washington, DC

INSTITUTE FOR FACULTY MEMBERS
AAC&U also offers institutes for both early- and mid-career STEM faculty engaged in leading projects aimed at transforming undergraduate STEM education in their classrooms, departments, and institutions.

PKAL Summer Leadership Institute for STEM Faculty
Institute I: July 8–13, 2020 | Institute II: July 15–20, 2020
The Claggett Center, Adamstown, Maryland

Teaching to Increase Diversity and Equity in STEM (TIDES)
June 8–12, 2020 | Lansdowne Resort & Conference Center, Leesburg, Virginia

www.aacu.org/summerinstitutes