



## **UNDOING RACISM CALL TO ACTION**

Over the past 15 months – 92 members of the Colleges of the Fenway community have participated in **Undoing Racism (UR)** workshops. This is our moment to put into action what we committed to in this workshop: personally and professionally. We pledged a sacred covenant to face history and the truth about the damage systemic anti-Black racism and historical trauma is causing. We must recommit to support each other in doing this difficult and essential work on our campuses.

For many of us the Undoing Racism Workshop was a life changing experience where we spent 2.5 days coming to terms with the history of racism in the United States, its foundation and the recognition that American culture and governance was built on racism and our own internalization of it.

While we are sure you have heard this over the past few weeks – two of the core takeaways are: we are all racists and racism is systematically institutionalized in this country. It is in the air we breathe and can take our breath away.

For those of you who have participated in UR or similar programs – as administrators, staff, students and faculty within the COF community we have a responsibility to apply what we have learned about how racism operates and to do what we can to undo it. We can make change as gatekeepers and leverage our privilege for good. It is also critically important to recognize that as the beneficiaries of White supremacy, White people in the US need to take the lead in addressing systemic and institutional racism.

For those of you who have not had the opportunity – we invite you to talk with us about the experience, and how we can work together to do the work that needs to be done. We invite you to take advantage of the many **reading lists and resources** that are being circulated. You must be engaged, or we will fail in effectuating the change we hope for.

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