The SPS Faculty Forum: Race, Social Justice, and Faculty Voice  
Friday, June 12, 2020  
12:30 - 1:30 pm  
Meeting Link: https://nyu.zoom.us/j/94463230842  

Host: Edward Kleinert, Clinical Assistant Professor and SPS Faculty Council Chair  
Guests: Brandon Brown,  

Welcome  

Brandon Brown  
- SPS’s standing committee for IDBEA  
- The arc of moral universe is long but bends towards justice  
- Justice takes place at a number of different levels  
- As educators, we can educate each other and our institutions  
  - Conversation for the current moment  

Three considerations:  
- Who is enrolling as someone who is BIPOC?  
- Who is dropping out?  
- Why are they dropping out?  
- Are there specialized resources for BIPOC students?  
  - Low performance for incoming students  
  - Specifically at SPS rather than NYU  
  - Focus Groups for BIPOC  

BB: Being@NYU survey has informed much of the IDBEA efforts  
- Out of this, looking to provide link for students looking for these services  

ELK: ISSC as a resource for international students as well  
- What initiatives are at NYU v. what are at SPS?  
- Terminology for POC  
- Students feeling marginalized by programs and information from Being@NYU may not address all considerations (faculty experience and conversations with students)  
- Most tutoring and mentoring services at DAUS is SPS-specific  

ELK: There is currently a coordinated effort to reexamine these topics within curricula within SPS as well as across the university.  
BB: Impacts of #BLM and protests have informed recent actions and conversations within IDBEA committee:  
- Focus on current issues
Focus has also been around training for students and faculty to address issues as they arise
- Release of statement of SPS values?

ELK: What does change mean to us?
- Manish: when you have a problem, you can either cover the world in a carpet or to put on shoes and go forward.
- Compassion (rachmanis) within faculty for
- How are we organized and how can we make these structures more dynamic?
- Domestic students better reflecting demographics of US.
- International students having a better idea of what is going on in the US and potentially how this conversation extends to other countries.
- Funds to develop courses addressing this topic
- Experience of faculty informing changes can we make within our classrooms and interactions.

How do we see ourselves as SPS and how do we behave? What role do our courses play?
- BB: Addressing change will allow students to tackle this conversation
- SG: are we pointing students to take these courses?
  - Should these courses be core?
  - Image of the cake as multiple avenues to address many of these facets
  - Should these conversations be co-curricular or extracurricular?
  - What can faculty do to continue this conversation?

Race, Society, and Social Justice reflected in the nature of curricula
- What do we teach and how we teach to address historical and actual realities of discrimination within our society?
  - What can we do to showcase the diversity of courses, students, and faculty (DAUS)?
  - Reflections on these topics within classes and within larger extracurricular conversations.
    - E.g. Schack: housing discrimination within GI bill for returning vets of color
- How do we make these ideas actionable? Role of faculty in keeping the dialogue active and the initiatives moving forward.
- Identify each year a 'problem' brought up within social sciences
- Host talks around the topic from various academic perspectives
- Host break-out sessions to address more focused discussions with students
- Demonstrate multiple perspectives and how SPS is many coming to one
  - Idea was to have one larger auditorium conversation/lecture and then the smaller courses would delve into more specific conversations
- BB: Have divisions already done this? Can we share across divisions?
- Brian Schwagerl: great way to connect with students who may not be taking courses currently
BB: Transparency and trust among stakeholders at SPS and IDBEA is looking to this
  ● IDBEA will be presenting its actions to students, faculty, and staff

Martin Ihrig: Great time to be an educator to help our students engage with these topics
  ● SPS has been a place to offer solutions