**DIRECTO: The Diversity & Inclusion in Research & Teaching Organization**

Florida State University

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**Mission Statement**

DIRECTO enables ways to incorporate diversity and inclusion in research projects, teaching methods, and higher education life at Florida State University by:

- Offering a “safe-space” for individuals, groups, and the Tallahassee higher education community to feel comfortable to discuss issues surrounding diversity, inclusion, and equity.
- Connecting people and initiatives on campus that can increase diversity and enhance equity and inclusion.

Our actions foster opened dialogue and help to move forward the quest for diversity and inclusion in higher education in Tallahassee.

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**DIRECTO’s History**

DIRECTO is a graduate student-led organization that was initially conceived in 2017 by members of the Program for Instructional Excellence (PIE), The Fellows Society, and Dr. Lisa Liseno. These founding members submitted an application for the FSU President’s Diversity and Inclusion Mini-Grant Program in support of a Book Club. DIRECTO was awarded a mini-grant in support of the book club. The founding members expanded the vision and fundraising in support of three signature events: The Annual Fall University-Wide Symposium on Diversity & Inclusion in Research & Teaching, a Book Club, and the Spring Conversation Series.

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Questions about DIRECTO may be directed to:
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More information about DIRECTO may be found at
https://gradschool.fsu.edu/directo

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Facebook.com/fsudirecto/
SIGNATURE EVENTS

Fall Symposium on Diversity and Inclusion in Research and Teaching

DIRECTO’s Inaugural Fall Symposium goal is to promote constructive dialogue and provide participants opportunities to discuss issues surrounding diversity, inclusion, and equity. The aim is for attendees and participants to walk away from the event with tangible ways to promote diversity and foster inclusion in their research projects and teaching methods.

Fall Diversity and Inclusion in Research and Teaching Book Club

The book club provides an opportunity to "continue the conversations" started at the Symposium. With the support of the FSU President’s Diversity & Inclusion Mini-Grant, complimentary copies of the book have been provided to book club participants. The chosen book is discussed over a span of four weeks.

Spring Conversation Series on Diversity and Inclusion in Research and Teaching

These three events during the spring semester are scheduled to continue discussion of topics related to diversity and inclusion in research and teaching. During each event, two sessions are provided, one before, and one after a luncheon. There is plenty of time for discussion and dialogue among faculty, staff, undergraduates, graduate students, post docs, and alumni.