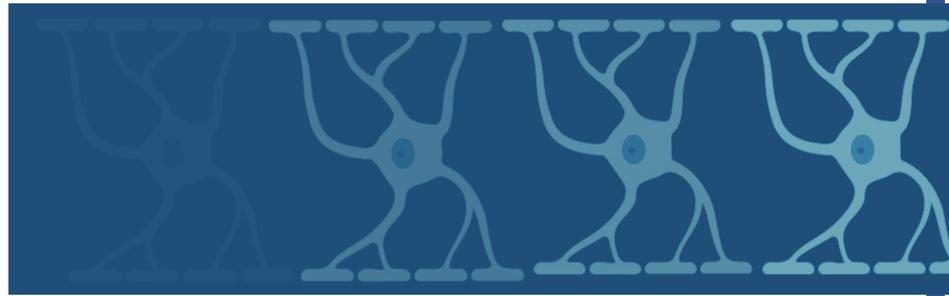




Diversity ● Equity ● Inclusion



### Five pointers to educate, promote diversity and inclusion, and combat racism

- With acts of violence against the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community we stand in solidarity with AAPI trainees, staff and faculty. Anti-Asian racism has existed in science, but the Covid-19 pandemic has made it worse. Read the Opinion: [“We Must Confront Anti-Asian Racism in Science”](#) in Scientific America.
- The documentary, [Coded Bias](#), addresses the consequences of bias in artificial intelligence including that facial recognition technologies do not accurately detect darker-skinned faces or classify the faces of women. Join us for a screening of Coded Bias on April 1 (pre-screening starts March 29) followed by a panel discussion on April 1 with PIN trainees and faculty at 4:30PM.
- In [“Breaking the binary by coming out as trans scientist”](#) Robin Aguilar, a PhD candidate at University of Washington addresses their experiences and self-advocacy. They call on institutions to hire experts in racial justice and queer liberation to shoulder the burden of advocacy for scientists of underrepresented groups.
- [“Racism and Health: Evidence and Needed Research”](#) in Annual Review Public Health provides an overview of the evidence linking the primary domains of racism – structural racism, cultural racism and individual-level discrimination – to mental and physical health outcomes.
- Scientists provide new hope by developing Covid-19 vaccines but for some underrepresented communities the vaccine creates fear. Read [“Why some Black and LatinX people are reluctant to get the Covid-19 vaccine”](#) which addresses how this mistrust was fostered including the past racist health policies and clinical experiments that targeted these vulnerable communities.

### Featured trainees who contribute to diversity and inclusion



**Jason Alipio (he/him/his)**, a PIN student in the Keller lab, identifies as Filipino American, Marine Corps veteran, and a first generation college student.

Jason is a Meyerhoff Fellow. He promotes diversity and inclusion by participating in the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS) Student Ambassador Program and he mentors underrepresented high school and undergraduate students in a Research in Practice Program. He is most proud of publishing his recent first author manuscript, [Alipio et al., \*Journal of Neuroscience\* 2021](#).



**Chimdiya Onwukwe (she/her/hers)**, a PIN MSTP student who is rotating in the Keller lab. She immigrated to the United States at the age of ten.

Chimdiya is a Meyerhoff Fellow. She worked with the Refugee Youth Project, tutoring students in English, Math, and Reading. She also engaged in art projects and outdoor activities with these students. She worked with the REACH Program at UMBC mentoring young women from Baltimore City and County high schools who indicated an interest in pursuing STEM careers. These effort helped aid these students to build and implement science fair projects and presentations. The most fulfilling part of this work was helping to nurture a culture of vulnerability and to create an atmosphere to build

confidence in the students' voice. She served as a secretary and interim treasurer for the UMB chapter of the Student National Medical Association (SNMA), an organization dedicated to supporting underrepresented minority medical students. She and her sibling recently organized an effort to aid URM pre-medical students in preparing their application and generated funds to offset application costs. Chimdiya is most proud of the Specific Aims she designed as a part of Proseminar, which helped to overcome her apprehension about grant writing as a scientist. She is grateful for the TAs, classmates and PIs who gave their time and knowledge to make Proseminar a great experience.