

The Anti-Racism Task Force (ARTF) Business Practice Sub Committee was formed to identify ways to improve Drexel's business practices. We understand that the need and intent for our community far exceeds what our recommendations can achieve. Our goal is to realign Drexel's intent and reposition our efforts to ensure that the practices of our University are directly impacting the community it resides in. We suggest that these recommendations be considered alongside Drexel University's new landscape of higher education. We strongly believe that the future of our university is directly related to the health of our city and most particularly West Philadelphia. We believe the perfect environment for learning is one that encompasses consideration, collaboration, and partnership with a community from a business perspective.

The recommendations from Drexel's ARTF Business Practice Subcommittee were comprised from months of research, internal and external assessment and collaboration with University stakeholders who engage within Drexel business practices. The ARTF Business Practice Subcommittee has determined the recommendations set forth best represent the next steps our University should take forth regarding ensuring that racism is not a factor within Drexel's business practice. It is suggested that the implementation of these recommendations be treated with diligence and that the Business Practice Subcommittee receive updates on the progress and status of the University's progression.

The ARTF's Business Practices Subcommittee has determined four key focus areas that are critical to advancing Drexel as an inclusive anchor institution. The four areas are: 1) endowment and financing strategies to assist community businesses; 2) increasing direct spend with diverse and local businesses; 3) Drexel contracting processes and current practices; and 4) collaboration and partnerships with community organizations. Our committee hopes that these four key areas are provided with the proper resources and attention to ensure success.

The ARTF Business Practice Subcommittee believes that an organization's business practice is something that should be looked at continuously and should have an ongoing audit to ensure an inclusivity compliance as well as overall effectiveness. We believe that the recommendations set forth are only the beginning to what is needed to evolve Drexel into business best practice. If there are any questions regarding the intent or implementation of our recommendations, please feel free to reach out to our committee for assistance.