

June 22, 2017
Session length: 1 hour

Correct Response or Over-Correction?

Bias Response Teams exist on hundreds of University campuses. Although the responsibilities and authority of teams are institution specific most teams seek to prevent, respond to, and remediate alleged bias incidents and infractions. The call for institutions to combat bias and provide spaces which support all students has grown louder in recent years. Voices critical of bias response teams have also increased citing concerns of chilling effects on speech in and out of classrooms and detrimental impacts on student maturation and learning and academic research.

Learning outcomes:

- Participants will gain a better understanding of the function(s) of a bias response team
- Participants will gain a better understanding of the potential First Amendment concerns related to bias response teams
- Participants will be discuss how to avoid First Amendment concerns while utilizing bias response mechanisms on campus

Presenters:

Demetri Morgan, PhD, is an Assistant Professor of Higher Education at the Loyola University Chicago School of Education. His research interests center on the purpose and responsibilities of higher education in a diverse democracy. Dr. Morgan seeks to understand how colleges and universities create campus climates that build the cultural competencies of students in order to foster lifelong civic and political engagement. Additionally, he explores issues of academic governance and institutional policy in relation to boards of trustees and their influence on the outcomes and success of students. He earned his PhD from the University of Pennsylvania, and a MEd in Higher Education and Student Affairs from Indiana University.

Lance Watson, MEd, is the Director of Student Conduct and Community Standards in the Vice Provost for Student Affairs Office at the University of Kansas. Mr. Watson is responsible for maintaining the community standards of the University and addressing student behavior. He serves on the Students of Concern Review Team and is a campus leader on issues of free speech, bias response, and civility. He earned his MEd from Clemson University.



Related materials:

Citation: Lukianoff, G., & Haidt, J. (2015, September). The Coddling of the American Mind. The Atlantic.

Full text link: <https://newrepublic.com/article/132195/rise-bias-response-teams-campus>

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