

School of Public Health EDI Unconference FAQs

Wednesday, 25th August 2021.

9:00- 11:00am & 12:30- 2:30pm

Refreshments available in between the sessions at Herston campus for all attendees.

What is EDI?

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion means striving for everyone to have the resources and opportunities they need to participate in all aspects of life to their full potential. This can be done by questioning systems, challenging injustices, and advocating for and empowering the vulnerable in our communities. Remember: **Equity is not the same as equality!** (*Equality refers to the state of being equal in status, rights or opportunities*)

Equity is fairness and equality in outcomes! Not just in supports and opportunities.

Diversity means actively ensuring we reflect the diversity of who we are as a global society, instead of simply those who are loudest or most visible.

Inclusion means creating opportunities for everyone to be included, even if that means doing things differently to how they've been done in the past.

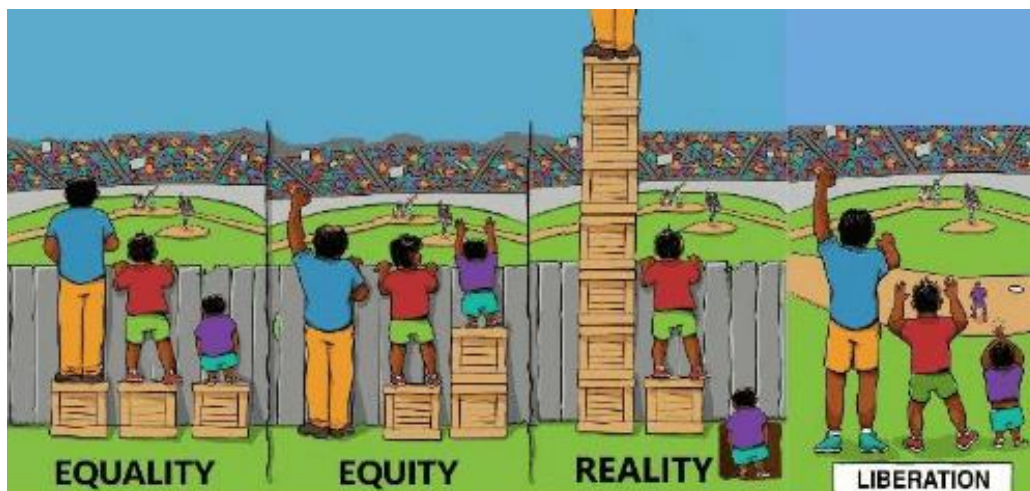


Image source: https://communelifeblog.wordpress.com/2018/10/19/aspirational-egalitarianism/?fbclid=IwAR3Z7_6dev7ExIL1tH9xbSK72KGDjBmzgxOhdh_7jH3n4gEf0VtPT_RJg0

What can we do to improve EDI?

By coming together as a collective! We don't know what we don't know. It's important to pass the mic, create space and provide platforms for marginalized voices. We need to sit with our discomfort and explore where these ideas stem from. Some good practices are:



What is an Unconference? And why it is important?

Different to a conference, an unconference aims to **create a conversation**.

Now, we're not talking about a conversation in the usual sense; **an unconference sparks dialogue between speakers and participants**. We can do this by avoiding the hierarchical structure of traditional conferences and providing opportunities for participants and speakers to reflect on topics together and discuss their nuances on an equal footing.

We all come from diverse backgrounds with intersecting identities. As such, each person's experience is important in reflecting the mosaic of our community. We understand that everyone plays different roles within the community and within the setting of a conference, one may lean more towards a speaker or participant. The great part about an unconference is that you don't need to choose. We all have valuable experiences that deserve space and a platform to be heard. **This unconference will provide an opportunity for all involved to share their ideas, learn from each other, and grow as a community.**

When and where is the Unconference happening?

The Unconference is running in Week 4 of semester 2 on **Wednesday 25th August**. It's all online and we will have 2 sessions running from **9 to 11am** and **12:30 to 2:30pm**. While the event is run on zoom, we will have a space for any folks on campus at Herston to enjoy the break between sessions over at the Herston Hangout zone in between Café Dose and the Oral Health Centre. There will be bean bags, free tea and coffee as well as snacks.

What will the Unconference look like?

We are creating a space for you and your peers to discover how others are making UQ a safe and inclusive space to learn and work. We also want to hear *how you envision a more equitable UQ* by providing everyone opportunities to be involved more throughout the event. There will be short 10-15min presentations followed by opportunities to discuss the content.

We will have speakers from a variety of spaces at UQ- *researchers, students, professional staff and teachers as well as panel discussions*. Topics include **gender, sexuality, race, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, disability, health and wellbeing, mental health, caregivers, culturally and linguistically diverse...** the list goes on!

How do we get involved?

You can RSVP to this event through a link on our site or through a QR code that will take you to our google form. You can participate in a number of ways in this event- as a session participant, presenter or a panel with 3-5 people.

If you'd like to be a presenter or organise a panel- please submit a brief summary of what you'd like to present about, and we will be in touch with you to organise a time slot.

