

April 21, 2022

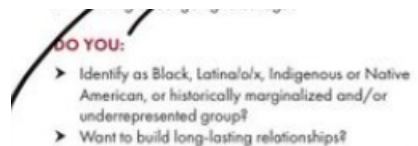
OCR Kansas City Office (*via email*: OCR.KansasCity@ed.gov)

Dear OCR Kansas City:

This is a Title VI complaint against the University of Oklahoma (OU) (660 Parrington Oval, Norman, OK 73019-0390) and Norman Public Schools (131 South Flood Avenue, Norman, OK 73069) as follows:

1. OU's Jeannine Rainbolt College of Education plans to run, and has advertised, a **Find Your Future Summer Education Camp** that discriminates in eligibility on the basis of race and ethnicity. The program exists to "address the critical shortage of educators from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds in the state of Oklahoma and across the country" (<https://www.ou.edu/education/news/findyourfuture>), which is an impermissible reason for such discrimination.

Eligibility is limited to "Students from historically marginalized and/or underrepresented groups" <https://www.ou.edu/education/news/findyourfuture>. This is further defined as quoted in a tweet published today:



("DO YOU: / Identify as Black, Latino/a/x, Indigenous or Native American, or [from a] historically marginalized and/or underrepresented group?") (full tweet on next page).

This program discriminates against a student who is not from any of the categories, including a student who is white. A student who is non-Hispanic and white is excluded because of his or her race and ethnicity, not being a member of one of the eligible races or ethnicities.

2. The tweet claims that Norman Public Schools sent an electronic flyer to at least some of its high school students "today" (presumably meaning April 20, 2022, since the tweet was posted on April 21 at 12:02 a.m.) (flyer appears in tweet on next page) promoting the discriminatory camp. Norman Public Schools discriminated against non-Hispanic white students by promoting the discriminatory program.

The deadline for applications is May 1, 2022. Since it is unlikely that OCR will be able to act before the deadline, I ask OCR to strive to resolve the matter quickly to either (1) require OU open a new enrollment period, or (2) prevent OU from running the discriminatory program.

If OCR cannot act in time and ultimately finds OU responsible for discrimination by holding the program, I leave it to OCR to determine an appropriate remedy for OU's discrimination.



**UnWokable | Mark Ousley** @AcsAgainstCRT · 10h

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Today, @NormanSchools sent a message to high school students today from @UofOklahoma

The message advertised a segregated camp run by the OU College @oueducation that is free only to students from “historically marginalized groups.”

This is violation of federal law. @Okla\_OAG

**· FIND · YOUR ·  
FUTURE**  
SUMMER EDUCATION CAMP

**FREE to attend for selected participants!**

**Deadline to apply: May 1**

**FIND YOUR FUTURE SUMMER EDUCATION CAMP IS FOR YOU!**  
JULY 17-22, 2022

Get a taste of college life by spending a week on the OU-Norman campus in the Jeannine Rainbolt College of Education.

**ARE YOU:**

- ▶ A rising sophomore, junior, or senior?
- ▶ Interested in exploring the field of education?
- ▶ Thinking about going to college?

**DO YOU:**

- ▶ Identify as Black, Latina/Latino, Indigenous or Native American, or historically marginalized and/or underrepresented group?
- ▶ Want to build long-lasting relationships?

Apply today!

Learn more at [bit.ly/FYFEdCamp](https://bit.ly/FYFEdCamp)

For questions or accommodations, email [findyourfuture@ou.edu](mailto:findyourfuture@ou.edu)

**JEANNINE RAINBOLT  
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**  
The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA

Kansas City Office  
Office for Civil Rights  
April 21, 2022

Answers to Frequently Asked Questions

I have no relationship to OU or Norman Public Schools.

I identify the entire (otherwise eligible) non-Hispanic white student bodies of U.S. high schools as the people as excluded from the program, and could name them by proceeding through student directories, although I do not currently have the name of a student who applied and was denied; an ineligible student of course would not even try.

The language on the webpage and the flyer is discriminatory against the excluded students.

I have not filed any other complaint or suit.

I do not know which staff have been involved other than any named in the cited material.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Adam Kissel

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