

## **Statement of diversity, equity, and inclusion**

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As a student and a minority, I saw how easy it was for me to feel left out, discouraged, and misguided by certain professors. I am definitely aware of issues pertaining to diversity, equity, and inclusion, because I went through the same issues when I was in both undergraduate and graduate school. As a professor, I believe that it is my responsibility to ensure that students perform at the highest level, but also at an acceptable academic level and nothing short. As a result, I have made it a priority to devote all efforts to ensure that all my students succeed (regardless of their origins). I have an implicit policy of not leaving any student behind in my classes because of the specific issues being addressed here. This is why I always go for the extra mile (for example, more office hours, after class talks, and extra coaching) to help those students who are not comfortable become more attuned to the learning objectives. I try to create a classroom environment in which students feel respected, supported, coached, and comfortable to ask questions. In my experience, this is a critical part in promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion. We must make every student comfortable enough to be able to express themselves freely and it is our responsibility to reach out and find ways in which we can help them become a better version of themselves.