

# URGE

## Unlearning Racism in Geoscience

### THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

This Statement of Cooperation is intended to articulate and memorialize (1) the existence, identity, mission and goals of the recently established association of individuals (listed below) affiliated or associated with the URI-GSO known as “GSO/URI Making Waves” (the “Group”) , and (2) to outline a series of meetings to be held in the coming months between the Group and the URI-GSO Dean, Dean Paula Bontempi.

#### I. Mission and Goals of The Group

- A. We share the goals of the national group known as “URGE”, which is dedicated to the goal of “Unlearning Racism in Geoscience”
- B. Our Group has established itself in part as a “pod” of the national URGE group
- C. Our Group is committed to URGE’s primary objectives, which include the following:

- 1. Deepen the community’s knowledge of the effects of racism on the participation and retention of black, brown, and indigenous people in Geoscience.
- 2. Use the existing literature, expert opinion, and personal experiences to develop anti-racist policies and strategies.
- 3. Share, discuss, and modify anti-racist policies and strategies within a dynamic community network and on a national stage.

We are committed to our pod’s objectives:

- 1. Discuss and assess the racial justice, equity, and inclusivity of our organization.

2. Develop an anti-racism Action Plan with actions specific to issues at the Bay Campus and URI including methods for measuring and reporting progress.

We are committed to pursuing these objectives individually, as a pod, and as an organization.

## II. Meetings with the URI GSO Dean

Our Unlearning Racism in Geoscience (URGE; [www.urgeoscience.org](http://www.urgeoscience.org)) pod has the following meetings scheduled with the Dean Bontempi:

- Meeting 1 - Introduction to URGE and Discussion of Pod Goals - March 12 3-4 pm.
- Meeting 2 - Invitation for leadership to attend a regular pod meeting May 7 3-4 pm.
- Meeting 3 - Follow-Up Discussion of Pod Proposal and Actions - June 18 3-4 pm.

URI/GSO Making Waves ("The GROUP")



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Kathleen Donohue

Kathleen signs on behalf of:

Corinna Breusing  
Dawn Cardace  
Isabel Dove  
Rainer Lohmann  
Catalina Martinez  
Sarah Nickford  
Robert Pockalny  
Johana Rotterova  
Samantha Setta  
Arthur Spivack  
Barbara Sullivan-Watts

I am committed to meeting with the Group, as described above, and look forward to working with the Group on identifying and developing shared goals and action items relating to anti-racism at URI and the GSO, in conjunction and coordination with any university wide efforts re the same. .



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Paula Bontempi, Ph.D.  
Dean, URI GSO