

URGE

Unlearning Racism in Geoscience

URGE Policies for Working with Communities of Color for University/Organization

This is what was found by UCR UGRAD POD at the University of California Riverside on Policies for Working with Communities of Color as well as plans for improved processes and/or needed resources.

Pods may have members from a range of career stages and involvement in the development and execution of research projects, and pod members may have different experiences or different perspectives when responding to these questions. Consider this in the summary document and focus on capturing responses that are representative of the range in your pod.

- **Audit of previous interactions with communities of color at our organization:**

- No official audit done, but we were able to find various research projects
 - <https://ucrtoday.ucr.edu/40629> : Low-income Communities of Color Grow Healthier Through Community Organizing : This paper states how low income communities of color tend to be the unhealthiest in the nation due to the neighborhoods not being able to meet basic needs.
 - <https://news.ucr.edu/articles/2020/12/09/how-you-measure-happiness-dependswhere-you-live> : How you measure happiness depends where you live: In this paper UCR did research involving students from 63 different countries and how they described the meaning the happiness.
 - <https://socialinnovation.ucr.edu/news/2021/02/03/new-group-help-inlandcommunities-color-get-timely-coronavirus-information>: new group to help Inland communities of color get timely coronavirus information : This paper talks about how communities of color are receiving news and information about coronavirus.

- **What worked well in these interactions?**

- UCR Katipunan PSO x Liyang Network: Although this is not a research project, this is an organization that one of our members is a part of at UCR that allowed Liyang Network to lead the discussions, and allowed members of Katipunan to hear their perspectives, constant communication

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<https://news.ucr.edu/articles/2020/12/09/how-you-measure-happiness-dependswh ere-you-live> : This paper talked to communities (to some extent) to “gauge happiness” and involved participant from around the world.

The Statistical information worked well in many of these papers/projects.

● **What did not work well, and how can this be better addressed in future plans?**

○ Not many of the articles/projects we found involved speaking directly to the communities they were researching, rather they would talk to professional individuals who knew about these communities just as professors. In the future, they can talk to these communities themselves to understand their thoughts and observations.

- the statistical information used worked well.

○ <https://ucrtoday.ucr.edu/40629> : did not directly consult the communities themselves

● **Are there ways to improve the outcome of projects already undertaken?**

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<https://socialinnovation.ucr.edu/news/2021/02/03/new-group-help-inlandcommunities-color-get-timely-coronavirus-information> : For example, this paper could have includes diverse partners in this project

○ To improve in the future, one should work with community members, acknowledge the help they received from these communities, include community members in the research (not just the professionals) and a include translation of research which can be better understood.

● **Are there specific resources or guidelines that are needed to improve the process for planning ahead and working with communities of color?**

○ The researcher themselves could create a Website/Domain for the community they are doing research on to access, and have it consistently updated. This is so that the communities knows what the researchers are doing with the information and so that it is not changed into a different research that the community did not consent of.

○ Additional staff to take responsibility of additional tasks (ex. Translation of research, point of contact to take requests from community).

○ Points of contact with those involved (phone numbers, email, address)

■ There should be communication between the researchers and the community being researched.