

## **Saint Peter's University**

### **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Statement**

#### **Cornerstone**

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." Mark 12:30-31.

#### **Our Credo**

Since its founding in 1872 in Jersey City, New Jersey, Saint Peter's University has served successive generations of first-generation and immigrant students. Our diversity is one of our greatest institutional strengths and lends itself to an exceptional educational experience with opportunities to enrich the teaching and learning environment with diverse perspectives, ideas and experiences; to have open, inclusive and non-alienating discussions; and to build a community culture that embraces and celebrates diversity of thought, solidarity and respect for others. We are fully committed to building a welcoming culture of equity and inclusion in all areas of our Jesuit, Catholic mission.

#### **Our Commitments**

As understood through the Ignatian principles of seeing God in all things, caring for the whole person, forming people for and with others, and believing that all human beings are made in the image of God, we will:

- Form a community of mutual respect to nourish and celebrate not only our human differences but our common shared humanity.
- Encourage a culture of tolerance, open-mindedness and listening to those of diverse cultures and celebrate our diversity of cultures in public spaces on campus.

- Incorporate understanding of diversity, equity, inclusion and social justice in teaching, research, critical learning opportunities, scholarship and co-curricular activities.
- Recruit, admit, hire and/or retain students, faculty, staff, administrators and board leaders who reflect diverse experiences and backgrounds.
- Promote best practices related to diversity, equity and inclusion for the University family through campus-wide conversations and activities, antiracism training and professional development.
- Assess and review practices and policies for impact and effectiveness and implement changes when improvements are needed.
- Oppose all forms of bias, prejudice and intolerance and expect all community members to share in the personal and collective responsibility for creating and sustaining an inclusive environment.
- As a leader in Jesuit higher education, promulgate these values within the Saint Peter's community and to the greater public.

“The dynamism of any diverse community depends not only on the diversity itself but on promoting a sense of belonging among those who formerly would have been considered and felt themselves outsiders.” Hon. Sonia Sotomayor

Adopted by the Board of Trustees  
January 27, 2021