Call for Papers:

*Not Token Gestures: Strategic DEI (Re)Visionings in 21st Century US Higher Education*

Under Contract with Lexington Books

Submission Due: 200 word abstract and full text by January 5, 2024

**Description**

2023 has witnessed constant judicial and legislative attacks on Critical Race Theory (CRT) and Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Social Justice (DEISJ) practices within higher education. From landmark decisions in the *Students for Fair Admissions v. President and Fellows of Harvard College* SCOTUS case, to Florida Governor Ron DeSantis signing into law the blocking of state and federal funds being used for DEI initiatives and curriculum, the decades of hard fought for strides to transform educational spaces so that they no longer foster discriminatory and exclusionary processes seem to be being erased.

But these attacks have also created an opportunity for those working in CRT/DEISJ to consider new strategies for grappling with what is at the core of social inequality, and processes of oppression, in higher education. For, even with the successes in academia over the last decades, what has remained steadfast are the *implicit* biases and mechanisms that keep inequality and inequity deeply entrenched in the fabric of education, especially higher education

This anthology seeks original, previously unpublished contributions from academics and administrators working in higher education that respond to these historical decisions and laws, and engage this possibility for alternative strategies. It takes as a fundamental reality the fact that, as the people working in the “trenches” of DEI, we often know the needs of both students and the larger infrastructure that keeps the campus running. We also intimately know the mechanisms that maintain—often unwittingly—discriminatory processes that keep communities of color and women—especially women of color—from entry into a college or university at different levels. And thus, we are uniquely qualified to offer suggestions for change.

Submissions, both creative—such as poetry, testimonio, and visual art—and scholarly works, are invited on the following topics, which will be broken into three categories within the anthology:

Responding to the Attacks

-How did you respond to the SCOTUS decision?

-What is your response to legislation designed to hinder/stop CRT/DEISJ in academia?

Strategic Curriculum

-What recommendations do you have for developing curriculum framed by Critical Race Theory/ DEISJ? Why?

-What work can be done in departments that have historically been considered “outside” DEISJ or unconnected to CRT?

Strategic Infrastructural Change

- What recommendations and insights do you have for administrative work—and the resources needed—to create, initiate, and/or maintain DEISJ initiatives?

-What infrastructural shifts can happen in higher educaton to promote greater equity, and how?

Please submit contact information, 200 word abstracts, and full texts to roberta.hurtado@oswego.edu by January 05, 2024