

The impacts of COVID-19 and how racism is hindering our diversity and inclusion efforts

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AGU has recently established an updated Strategic Plan which outlines three primary strategic goals to: (1) catalyze discovery and solutions to scientific and societal challenges; (2) promote and exemplify an inclusive scientific culture; and (3) partner broadly with other organizations and sectors to effectively address scientific and societal challenges. AGU has also adopted a diversity and inclusion strategic plan in 2018 and put in place a Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee to help assure progress towards our diversity equity and inclusion goals. Many new initiatives are underway across AGU programs and metrics are in development to help publicly track progress. The recent COVID-19 impacts and simultaneous major social protest in response to long-standing U.S. racial issues are now creating additional challenges for scientific societies' awareness and resolve to assure accomplishing our objectives across all programming, including for diversity and inclusion. This talk will highlight several of the impacts, challenges and opportunities, and will discuss strategies and action to help AGU and others move forward with intention and purpose towards achieving our diversity, equity and inclusion goals.

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