

CANR DEI Committee Annual Report AY23/24
Submitted by Christine Skelly, Committee Chair

The CANR DEI Committee discussed and agreed to begin each meeting with a committee member reading the MSU Land Acknowledgement Statement. This statement reminds the committee of MSU's commitment to be "accountable to the needs of American Indian and indigenous peoples."

This Spring, the CANR DEI Committee welcomed Dr. Antomia Farrell, CANR Associate Dean and Director for DEI. Under her guidance, the committee reviewed the alignment of the MSU DEI and CANR DEI statements. We made light edits to the CANR statement to improve clarity, including expanding the definition of inclusion. The committee felt that these changes best reflected our collective college mission.

The CANR DEI Committee assisted with the evaluation of the following awards for Spring 2024:

- [Academic Achievement Graduate Assistantship Applications](#): We appreciate each unit that applied and encourage all units to learn more about this assistantship and how it can enrich your graduate student program.
- [CANR DEI Digital Badges](#): It is encouraging to see CANR units promoting DEI among their faculty, staff, and students, and we anticipate increased momentum as more members become involved.
- [CANR DEI You Belong Here Awards](#): We reviewed 36 applications that showcased the CANR community's excellence in DEI efforts.

The Digital Badges and You Belong Here Award will be formally announced at the [2024 CANR Faculty and Staff Awards Reception](#) on Thursday, May 2, 2024, from 2:30 p.m. to 5 p.m., with the formal program beginning at 3 p.m. at the MPS Atrium.

The committee hosted Cindy Horgan's interactive seminar, Mental Health Awareness Workshop, on April 2, 2024. The in-person meeting was packed, and many more joined by Zoom. The recording of this workshop will be close-captioned and made available for future viewing.

Next year's initiatives will include developing programs to support CANR Departmental and Organizational DEI Committees and reviewing the CANR DEI Strategic Plan.