



**American  
Accounting  
Association**

Diversity

## July 22, 2023 – Diversity Section of the American Accounting Association

### A LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Members of the Diversity Section,

It is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that I address you as the newly elected President of the Diversity Section of the American Accounting Association. I am deeply honored (and pleasantly surprised) to have been entrusted with this esteemed position.

First and foremost, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all our members, both longstanding and newly joined as we begin this new year. The Diversity Section is a community that thrives on the diverse perspectives, experiences, and backgrounds of its members. Our collective mission is to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion in all aspects of accounting **education, research, and practice**. As the incoming President, I am committed to amplifying underrepresented voices, driving meaningful change, and creating opportunities for our members to succeed. I firmly believe that diversity is not just a buzzword; it is the key to unlocking our full potential as a profession.

During my tenure, I intend to focus on three key pillars:

**Nurturing Education:** Education is the cornerstone of progress. We will strive to develop initiatives that enhance diversity and inclusion in accounting education, ensuring that students from all backgrounds have access to quality resources, mentorship, and networking opportunities. By equipping the next generation with the skills and mindset necessary for an inclusive profession, we will build a stronger and more vibrant community. *I call on you to share with me your ideas and suggestions, and stories of successes and/or failures at your school so we can all learn and grow. I also challenge all members to earn and embrace the **AAA DEIB certificate: The Architecture of Inclusion**, developed by Barbee Oakes. Remember, it is free to all AAA members.*

**Advancing Research:** We will encourage and support rigorous research that explores the impact of diversity and inclusion in the accounting field. By promoting scholarship that addresses the challenges, opportunities, and best practices in this domain, we will contribute to the knowledge base and inspire evidence-based change.

**Advocating for Change:** It is important to remember that we are a leading voice in the accounting profession; it is our duty to advocate for diversity and inclusion at every level. We will actively engage with stakeholders, policymakers, and industry leaders to shape policies, promote equitable practices, and create a more diverse and inclusive profession. *Raise your hand and volunteer to be diversity advocates at your school, the*

*AAA, and your community. Encourage and invite professionals in practice to be involved in our section. By standing united and driving change together, we can create a lasting impact.*

I am thrilled to work alongside our dedicated AAA staff, and Section committees, as well as section members. Your expertise, passion, and commitment to diversity and inclusion are invaluable assets that will propel us forward. *I invite you to actively participate in our initiatives, share your ideas, and collaborate with fellow members to make a meaningful difference.*

In closing, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our outgoing President, Craig Sisneros, for his exceptional leadership and tireless efforts. I also express my deep appreciation to the Diversity Section for entrusting me with this responsibility.

I look forward to an extraordinary year to serve as your President. Together, let us forge a future where diversity is celebrated, inclusion is the norm, and every member of our profession thrives.

Warmest regards,



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