



BENTLEY UNIVERSITY

June 9, 2021

Dear faculty colleagues,

I hope you are all managing in the warm weather this week.

Many of you are aware of the experiences that our students and alumni shared on the [@sexism.at.Bentley](https://www.instagram.com/sexism.at.Bentley) Instagram page earlier this year. The stories posted on that account remind us that we face ongoing work in developing a culture that acknowledges and eliminates sexism, misogyny, and gender-based violence. As part of our commitment to support our students, and in meeting one of the priorities of the diversity, equity, and inclusion (DE&I) strategic plan for academic affairs, **I am requesting that all full-time faculty participate in one of the “Trauma-Informed Approaches to Disclosures of Sexual Violence” training sessions** that will be offered this year. Adjunct faculty are welcome and encouraged to attend one of the sessions.

The email below from the Office of Diversity and Inclusion highlights the first training session, which will be held next week for faculty and staff. Sessions for faculty and staff will also be offered during the [Bentley Community Learning Conference](#) in July and during an additional stand-alone workshop in August. Starting in September, my office will coordinate faculty only sessions, and I will share more details about those sessions once we’ve finalized the dates and times. Please note that all of these training sessions will cover the same content; the only distinction is that the fall sessions will not include staff participants. Academic leadership will track the attendance at these sessions to ensure we have full compliance from full-time faculty.

I appreciate the collective effort to create a more inclusive and caring campus.

Much thanks,

Donna Maria Blancero, PhD

Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs

Pronouns: She/Her/Hers



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From: GA_DiversityOffice <DiversityOffice@bentley.edu>

Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 10:28 AM

To: Faculty and Staff DL <FacultyandStaffDL@bentley.edu>

Subject: Training Registration Open: Trauma-Informed Approaches to Disclosures of Sexual Violence

Dear colleagues,

The brave stories shared through the Sexism.at.Bentley Instagram account have encouraged many of us to consider what we can do to be more supportive of those who come forward to share their experiences with sexual harassment or violence. As Bentley continues to address the impact of sexism in our community, we are working to better equip faculty and staff to respond to disclosures in empathetic and supportive ways.

We are excited to welcome our campus partner [REACH](#) Beyond Domestic Violence to deliver a session to equip faculty and staff with trauma-informed skills and approaches for responding to disclosures of sexual harassment and violence. This training is especially important for those who facilitate learning environments, serve in advisory roles and manage student employees.

The first opportunity to participate will take place on **Tuesday, June 15, from 9am-11am**. Full details for the training, including a link to register, are below. We will offer the same session again in July as part of the Bentley Community Learning Conference and again as a stand-alone session in August. Additional sessions, including some reserved for faculty only, will take place throughout the Fall semester as well.

Session Title: We All Have a Role to Play: Trauma-Informed Approaches to Disclosures of Sexual Violence

Description: Research indicates that the greatest indicator of healing is when a survivor of interpersonal violence or other trauma has a trusted individual that offers a supportive and believing response. At any time, a student can choose you, their faculty member, advisor, or supervisor as someone they trust. After this workshop, participants will have a greater understanding of trauma, its impacts, and expressions and through presentation and discussion, an increased competence and confidence to respond with care.



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Date: Tuesday, June 15th

When: 9am-11am

Where: Conducted via Zoom. [Register here](#). Attendance limited to 50 participants.

We encourage all employees to take advantage of this opportunity to deepen our awareness and build skills that directly contribute to the creation of a more inclusive and supportive campus community. Thank you to our sponsors the Bentley's Community Coordinated Response Team ([CCRT](#)), the Office of the Provost, and Human Resources.

Please contact Matt Banks (matthewbanks@bentley.edu) with any questions.