



January 2021 Edition

Welcome to the *DE&I Digest*, a monthly e-newsletter exclusively for AMGA staff that will share news and resources relating to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DE&I)! For our inaugural edition, we'd like to share this welcome message from Jerry:

Hello everyone,

As I reflect on 2020, I think of the events surrounding police brutality, racial injustices, and the health inequities magnified by COVID-19 that sparked our need for self-reflection and to assess how the principles of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DE&I) are exemplified at AMGA. Last June, as a first step, we issued a statement that condemned racism and denoted it as a public health crisis. Since then, AMGA leadership has been committed to finding ways to make the workplace more inclusive and equitable and also to discovering how we can play a larger role in helping our members in this journey. With this month ushering in a new year and a new administration, I am hopeful that this new communications channel will allow staff to engage in resources around relevant DEI topics that can move us forward as an organization.

Today, in the spirit of MLK Day, I want to share a quote that resonates with me as I look ahead to what is in store for 2021:

"Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'" —Martin Luther King, Jr.

I hope to keep this sentiment in mind as we strive to advance health care this year, and I look forward to continuing our DE&I work in 2021.

Best,
Jerry

A banner with a green and blue geometric background. The text "Resources of the Month" is written in white, bold, sans-serif font.

Resources of the Month

Call for Resources!

Please let us know if you have any DE&I resources you'd like to share with staff! Each month, resources that are included in this section will either be selected by the DE&I Committee or recommended by staff. All staff are encouraged to submit suggested resources to DEICommittee@amga.org. Resource examples include: journal articles, books, news articles, multimedia resources (i.e., TED Talks, webinars, podcasts, audiobooks, etc.). Please ensure resources submitted are from reputable sources. All submissions are subject to Committee approval.

A banner with a blue and green geometric background. The text "Raise Your Cultural IQ!" is written in white, bold, sans-serif font.

Raise Your Cultural IQ!

Did You Know?

We're all familiar with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech and other notable strides he made as a Baptist minister and social activist who led the civil rights movement (i.e., the Montgomery bus boycott, organizing the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), the letter from Birmingham Jail, etc.). But did you know that after her first season on *Star Trek* Nichelle Nichols wanted to quit, and it was King that convinced her to continue playing the role of Lieutenant Uhura? King knew that representation and inclusion mattered. He told her that playing this role was helping the movement, as she was playing a new role for a black person in cinema – one that was intelligent and inspiring. Nichols ultimately decided to stay on *Star Trek* and served as a role model for many, including Whoopi Goldberg, who has acknowledged that seeing Nichols as Uhura was meaningful to her as a child.

[Learn More](#)

Questions? Comments? Suggestions? We'd love to hear from you! Email the DE&I Committee at DEICommittee@amga.org

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