MEDIA ADVISORY

The Carceral (on) Campus: Confronting Racism at the Intersection of the Prison-Industrial-Complex and University

WHEN?
Wednesday, September 30, 2020
4:00pm – 5:30pm

WHERE?
Facebook Live
https://www.facebook.com/events/2600152826913860/

WHO?
Roundtable Speakers:
- Danielle Amandine Ruhigisha
  Director of Community Engagement, Black Student Leaders Association, uOttawa
- Josiane N’choreret-Mbiamany
  Director of Content Creation, Black Student Leaders Association, uOttawa
- Tawny Allison
  Co-President, Indigenous Law Students’ Association, uOttawa
- Judy El-Mohtadi
  Board Member, OPIRG, uOttawa
- Nadia Abu-Zahra, PhD
  Joint Chair in Women’s Studies, uOttawa and Carleton University | Representative, APUO BIPOC Caucus
- Baljit Nagra, PhD
  Assistant Professor, Criminology, uOttawa | Member, APUO BIPOC Caucus
- Yraida Guanipa
  Executive Director, Yraida Guanipa Institute
- Souheil Benslimane
  Member, Criminalization and Punishment Education Project
- Alannah Fricker
  Member, No Cops On Campus, Ryerson
- Ife Omidiran
  Member, Harvard Prison Divestment Campaign

Moderator:
- Justin Piché, PhD
  Director, Carceral Studies Research Collective, uOttawa

WHY?
Universities across the world are standing in solidarity with racialized students, professors, and community members and are enacting anti-racism measures. Yet the problematic connections that exist between carceral institutions (that mass police and imprison Black, Indigenous, and people of colour), universities, and corporations (that contract services to both carceral institutions and universities) are often left off the agenda despite the catastrophic consequences these relationships have for racialized and oppressed communities. This event will illuminate the symbiotic relationships between the prison-industrial-complex and the university in order to further advance anti-racism efforts on campuses and society at large.
WHAT?
During the event presenters will briefly touch upon a range of issues post-secondary institutions like the University of Ottawa need to confront if they are serious about ending racial injustice, including (but not limited to): university students and staff facing racism; the use of racial profiling, carding and other discriminatory practices by campus security and police; the use of library database and subscription services run by multi-national corporations that use prison labour; the contracting-out of campus food services to companies that also turn a profit by serving woefully inadequate and unhealthy food to prisoners in jails like the Ottawa-Carleton Detention Centre; and the role endowment and pension plan fund investments in security, policing, and prison industries play in bankrolling technologies and services that literally injure, maim, and kill BIPOC and other human beings pushed to the margins that are subject to state repression. Beyond raising awareness about the ties that exist between the Prison-Industrial-Complex and the university, this event also aims to share lessons learned from campaigns to end racism on- and off-campus to inform on-going and future struggles in the service of racial justice.

SOCIAL MEDIA
Event webpage: https://www.facebook.com/events/2600152826913860
Hashtags: #BlackLivesMatter | #IndigenousLivesMatter | #BIPOClivesmatter | #DismantleTheCarceralOnCampus | #WeKeepEachOtherSafe | #BuildCommunities

CONTACT TO SETUP MEDIA INTERVIEWS WITH SPEAKERS
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