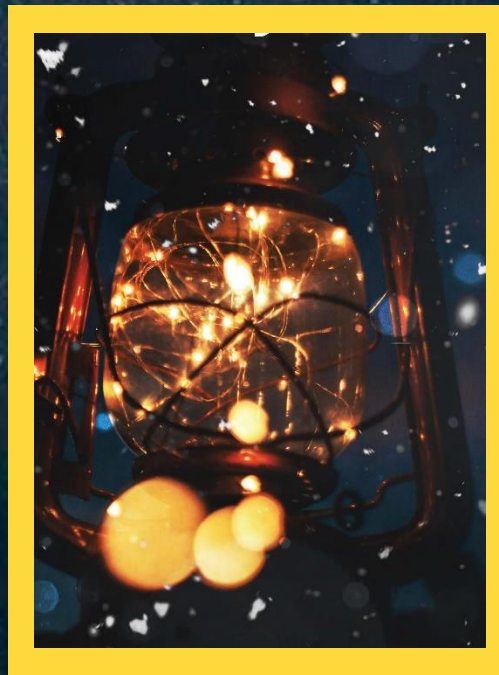


UNIVERSITY OF WINDSOR

A Celebration of the 2022 Annual OHREA Awards



Office of Human Rights, Equity, and Accessibility (OHREA)

Virtual Launch Friday, December 9, 2022



**The OHREA Awards
recognize and celebrate
the contributions made by
individuals and groups to
advance human rights,
social justice, diversity,
inclusivity, mental health,
employment equity and
accessibility at the
University of Windsor.**

**Congratulations to all the
2022 award recipients!**

Accessibility Award

The Accessibility Award is given to those who have contributed to increasing accessibility on campus or in the community. Accessibility can be enhanced by improvements to: physical space, customer service, accessible education, training and awareness, accessible employment, and information & communication.

Presented to:

- Alea Mclellan
- Luka Mlinarevic
- Saifaldin Eyad Hassan Abdelhamid
- Jasmine Bull
- Pavneet Sarao

This team of fourth-year engineering majors, under the direction of Professor Colin Novak, helped develop a manufacturing process that could assist children with disabilities to obtain a customized wheelchair faster. The new process, presented during the Faculty of Engineering Design Demo Day on July 29, 2022, has the potential to reduce production time to three or four weeks rather than the current six to eight months.

The students worked directly with the John McGivney Children's Centre (JMCC) to speed up its production of specialized seats uniquely designed to meet the specific needs of each child. The high-quality, individualized seats are better suited to young children than those procured off the shelf. These custom-moulded seats make a huge difference by providing optimal alignment and support while improving well-being.

The students are recognized for taking a capstone project and creating an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of children with disabilities.

Employment Equity Award

This award is given to those who have contributed to the advancement of employment equity at the University.

Presented to: Karen Pillon

Karen Pillon is an Associate University Librarian at the University of Windsor's Leddy Library. At Leddy, as well as within the Windsor-Essex community, Karen advocates for and works toward greater equity, diversity, and inclusion. The EDID initiatives to which Karen has contributed are broad and wide-reaching.

Throughout Karen's career, she has shown a commitment to EDID, which has grown and expanded over the years. She was instrumental in initiating inclusive interview practices for staff hiring at Leddy, which has since expanded to Faculty hiring as well. She has led multiple learning and development opportunities to increase the understanding of anti-Black racism on campus, including initiating an ABR book club for all library staff and faculty. She has been an active member in many EDID committees, including co-organizing accessibility awareness days, was the Chair for WUFA's Status of Women, Diversity, and Equity Action Committee (SWDEAC), has served on the Review Committee on Employment Equity (RCEE), as well as assisting the program development committee (PDC) in Indigenizing the curriculum. Karen enjoys working alongside both staff and faculty as an Equity Assessor, as a long-standing member of the Employment Equity Coordinating Committee (EECC), and on one of its subcommittees engaged in hiring and recruiting at the University.

Karen is working with the Canadian Academic Research Libraries' EDI working group to bring evolving practices forward when hiring employees, particularly from diverse groups. She is a long-time supporter and contributor to Women's Enterprise Skills Training (WEST) of Windsor (supporting racialized women entering the workforce for the first time) and has worked with other non-profit organizations such as the YMCA. Most recently, she is working with Dr. Francisca Omorodion's research team, giving interview skills workshops to improve the employability of African, Caribbean, and Black men (ACB men) in Windsor-Essex County.

Human Rights and Social Justice Award

This award is given to those who have contributed to fostering a culture of respect for human rights at the University or have worked towards the advancement (in the University community) of social justice at the local and global level.

Presented to: Danardo S. Jones

Danardo began his role as Assistant Professor within the Faculty of Law in 2021 and as highlighted by a student, "has quickly become a touchstone of justice-oriented lecturing at the University." He serves as a Faculty Advisor to the Black Law Student Association (Windsor Law Chapter), Social Justice Fellowship, Anti-Black Racism (ABR) committee member, Pro Bono Students Canada (Windsor Chapter – Lawyer Supervisor), Supporting Black youth in the Justice System (specific focus on human trafficking), Centre 4 Cities Public Legal Education Seminar: Oversight of Municipal Police Services, and ON OUR DOORSTEP: The Windsor Blockade (Legal, Political & Critical Perspectives – Presenter).

Professor Jones is dedicated to fostering a classroom culture that rejects racial "color blindness" and believes his students will go on to be advocates and decision-makers. He often spends extra hours after class time to take questions and invite student conversation, providing a safe space for marginalized students to contemplate their role in shaping the future of the profession. In addition, he teaches criminal law in a way that emphasizes social justice and human rights. He shifts the focus to how it is an opportunity to make the world a better place and help those who need it the most. He broadens students' minds, thinking about human rights and social justice, such as many societal issues like homelessness, food insecurity, mental illness, substance abuse, and domestic violence. He goes a step further to advocate and speak to how these societal issues disproportionately disparage racialized individuals, specifically Black and Indigenous people who come into contact with the Criminal Justice system.

Mental Health Champion Award

This award is given to those who have contributed to engaging students, faculty, or staff in removing the stigma associated with mental illness, reducing barriers for inclusion and recognizing and promoting mental health well-being.

Presented to: Krista Chandler

Over the past five years (2017-present), Dr. Krista Chandler has been leading a team of students in the Sport Psychology and Physical Activity Research Collaborative (SPPARC) and Centre for Human Performance in Health (CHPH) in delivering **UWorkItOut UWin**. This is a six-week physical activity (PA) program offered to low-risk, sedentary students seeking counseling services at the University of Windsor's Student Counseling Centre (SCC). The program aims to improve university students' mental and physical health.

This program has been a success! As of March 2022, the program has delivered 1080 hours of personal training and 270 hours of exercise counseling to 66 students. Participants experienced decreased anxiety and depression, as well as increased fitness, motivation, confidence, and coping skills. It is exciting to note that 92% of participants were mostly or very satisfied with the program, 84% felt that the program met most or all of their needs, and importantly, 29% felt that they no longer required SCC services after completing the program. It is without question that Dr. Chandler is a champion for mental health on our campus!

OHREA Award

This award is given in recognition of the contributions to the advancement of culture, diversity and inclusivity at the University of Windsor. This award may include aspects of accessibility, employment equity, diversity, human rights and social justice promotion.

Presented to: Lacy N. Carty

Lacy Carty is a graduate of the Master of Social Work and Juris Doctor Program at the University of Windsor. As a social justice activist, Lacy has been the founder and president of two grassroots student-led social advocacy groups at the University of Windsor: VOICES "Speaking-Out & Standing-Up," & "Making-It-Awkward: Challenging Anti-Black Racism Committee (MIA)". Under Lacy's leadership, these groups regularly assembled panels of social justice advocates, lawyers, students, professors, and working professionals, who joined in discussions and sparked a meaningful dialogue about solidarity and allyship in support of vulnerable Black youth who are overrepresented in the Canadian criminal justice system.

Throughout her educational, community and professional pursuits, Lacy has been involved with several renowned advocacy groups in Windsor and across Canada such as: Windsor's Equity and Diversity Committee; One vision One Voice; The Colour of Poverty; The Black Legal Action Centre; The Windsor-Essex Regional Youth Council; and Beauty Is Me (BIA).

Lacy's advocacy work embodies the core principles and values of being People-centered, community-engaged, and justice-seeking, urging others to become agents of positive change.

Because I am a Girl

We would like to thank everyone who contributed to this year's fundraiser recipient, Because I am a Girl.

If you are interested in making a donation, you can do so by visiting our sponsorship page on the Canada Helps website.

(<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/pages/annual-ohrea-awards-2022/>)

Note: To watch the corresponding YouTube video for each award, click on the individual award title



Thank you for watching!

Links to the Introduction and Awards Videos:

- [Introduction](#)
- [Accessibility Award](#)
- [Employment Equity Award](#)
- [Human Rights and Social Justice Award](#)
- [Mental Health Champion](#)
- [OHREA Award](#)

We would like to express our appreciation to the University of Windsor community, as we celebrate the contributions made by individuals and groups to advance human rights, social justice, employment equity, and accessibility.

OHREA would also like to thank the many committees that work throughout the year to create a more inclusive and welcoming learning and working environment.

