Background

- 2016 Campus Climate Survey and 2018 Climate Conversations
  - Challenges identified
    - **broad** (belonging, inclusion, diversity, and satisfaction)
    - **interpersonal** (communication, bias/mistreatment)

- Building a Community of Dignity and Respect
  - Based on what we learned in assessments
  - Principles foundational to a healthy campus community
  - OEI’s numerous Campus-wide endeavors to bring community together, promote dialogue

- But true community change must be from ground-up
Climate Grant Overview

• Climate Grant Initiative supports your work to help build a stronger University culture and community
  – Open to Ugrad and Grad students, staff, and faculty
  – Projects that draw upon your experiences, expertise or interests

• Projects that **directly** reflect the goals of the Campus Strategic Plan
  – Building a more inclusive campus community
  – Improving Campus Climate
  – Organizing for Success

• Projects that respond to challenges identified in the Campus Climate surveys, either broadly or specifically
  – Projects don’t have to **solve** the issue, but should address it thoughtfully
Climate Grant Overview

• Ideal project reaches beyond a single unit or department
  – Can impact people in a variety of places on campus

• Should promote community building
  – Collaboration between multiple campus groups (departments, offices, RSOs)
  – Collaborators OR participants throughout community who may not have met before
  – Groups of people of different campus roles

• Capacity Building
  – Innovate ways to address existing issues
  – One-time seed funds: $250-$2,500
  – Work that can be built upon in the future, scaled or adopted by a unit or group of units
Climate Grant Scope

- Potential for sustained engagement
  - Change how people experience UMass
  - Change how we interact with one another
  - Lasting impact beyond your planned programming; a process that can germinate beyond your initial scale

- Frequency and impact
  - Single Events, or standing resource, versus semester/yearlong series
  - Should depends on the issue being addressed

- Future work: Can it be replicated elsewhere or scaled more broadly in the future?
  - What would that look like?
  - What would the impact be?
Current and Previously Funded Projects

• Single or Limited Events
  – Asian American Film Festival

• Continuous Events
  – Disability Services Film Series
  – Making Art Yours

• Resources or Services
  – Faculty and Staff LGBTQIA Mentoring Program
Increase STEM Content Accessibility for Students

STEM content is typically presented in 2D illustrations, but the project team makes these concepts and objects accessible for blind and low vision students by creating 3D models of physics, chemistry, and biological concepts and objects. Once created, the 3D models can be shared online to assist visually impaired students across the globe.
Climate Grant Applications

• We will open applications on Thursday, March 3

• Applicants are asked to attend Q&A session on Zoom, prior to applying. Links will be on the OEI website.
  – Session 1: Wednesday, March 2 at 2pm
  – Session 2: Tuesday, March 8 at 10am
  – Session 3: Thursday, March 10 at 2pm
  – Applicants may attend Emmanuel’s regular office hours if they cannot make the above dates

• Applications are due by Friday, March 18.