



**OSU Libraries and Press**

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## **Oregon State University Libraries and Press Call to Action**

Libraries and university presses play a critical role in combating systemic racism but need to move beyond statements and platitudes to take action.

Taking constructive action as an organization typically relies on hosting conversations, gathering input and ideas, scheduling meetings, and the like.

But OSULP as an organization has had time, and yet here we are the week of June 1, 2020 still managing the emotional, mental, and spiritual aftermath of another Black man's tragic death as a result of violent and brutal police actions.

Rather than wait to create the perfect plan, let us as OSULP commit now to these actions:

- Acknowledge the role we have in supporting the legacy systems and the role we play in their dismantling;
- Respect the range of emotions that recent incidents evoke in communities of color, especially Black people, as a result of ongoing racist violence;
- Direct OSU Libraries and Press programs and resources, particularly collections, to support the efforts of communities at Oregon State and in Oregon as they understand and address the history of oppression in Oregon and beyond;
- Bolster ongoing efforts to disrupt and eliminate bias, intolerance, and racism;
- Educate ourselves about how oppression manifests at all levels: interpersonal, institutional and systemic;
- Work toward the most inclusive and diverse work culture/community possible;
- Create and maintain spaces where all people experience the safety, dignity, and respect they deserve.

And then let's keep the momentum going.

June 4, 2020