

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New York, NY — August 7, 2024 — The Association of Bioethics Program Directors (ABPD) announces the publication of a new target article in *The American Journal of Bioethics* (AJOB), titled "Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Bioethics: Recommendations from the Association of Bioethics Program Directors Presidential Task Force."

[Sandra Soo-Jin Lee](#), President of the Association of Bioethics Program Directors (ABPD), Professor of Medical Humanities and Ethics, and Chief of the Division of Ethics at Columbia University, stated: "This article is a crucial step toward rectifying the historical neglect of racial justice in bioethics. It provides actionable recommendations to foster a more inclusive and equitable field."

This pivotal work responds to urgent calls for addressing racism within bioethics, highlighting the field's historical neglect in centering racial justice. The article, produced by ABPD's Racial Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (REDI) Presidential Task Force, emphasizes the need for anti-racist practices within academic bioethics programs. It outlines specific recommendations to advance racial equity, diversity, and inclusion, urging bioethics organizations to integrate these principles into their scholarship, pedagogy, advocacy, and practice.

Key Recommendations:

- Encourage research that reflects **diverse values and worldviews**, focusing on REDI.
- Develop **sustainable funding sources** that support REDI scholarship and the development of underrepresented scholars.
- **Embed REDI into the canon** of bioethics education programs and education across various health fields.
- **Develop mentorship and leadership succession plans** that center REDI scholars and values.
- Establish a more **equitable distribution of REDI service work** among faculty and more equal valuation of **faculty salaries**.
- **Embed REDI into** how bioethicists provide **policy, advisory, and consulting** services.
- Build equitable **partnerships with marginalized communities** historically impacted by racism.
- **Ensure policies and plans reflect REDI goals** that encourage accountability and discrete timelines.
- **Develop tools to assess** and measure the progress of **REDI goals**.

The full article is published open access and available to read for free online in *The American Journal of Bioethics*. To read the full article, [visit this link](#).

For more information or to schedule an interview with [Prof. Sandra Soo-Jin Lee](#), please contact David Lamb at dl3580@cumc.columbia.edu.

About APBD The [Association of Bioethics Program Directors](#) (ABPD) represents the leadership of approximately 100 academic bioethics programs across North America. The ABPD exists to serve the needs of bioethics programs and their directors. The Association's work helps to foster the development and success of bioethics programs housed in academic institutions, by creating information of use to program directors, acting as a clearinghouse for information, and hosting conversations among peers about issues that are important for those in leadership positions.

About AJOB *The American Journal of Bioethics (AJOB)* is a leading peer-reviewed journal that publishes original research and commentary on bioethics, covering a wide range of topics related to the ethical aspects of healthcare, research, and policy.

For more information about the Division of Ethics at Columbia University, please visit [the Division website](#).

Media Contact: David Lamb
Communications Manager
dl3580@cumc.columbia.edu
631-953-7472
Division of Ethics,
Columbia University