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**To:** COLA Students, Faculty and Staff  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 18, 2020 10:06 AM  
**Subject:** COLA Faculty Fellow for Equity and Inclusion



University of New Hampshire

Dear students, faculty, and staff in the College of Liberal Arts,

I hope everyone is keeping well.

I am very pleased to announce that Professor Kabria Baumgartner has agreed to serve as the inaugural Faculty Fellow for Equity and Inclusion in our college for a four-year term, starting this fall. As many of you know, Professor Baumgartner, Associate Professor of English and American Studies, is a terrific scholar, teacher, mentor, and colleague. Among the many accolades her research has garnered are The Mary Kelley Book Prize from The Society for Historians of the Early American Republic for *In Pursuit of Knowledge: Black Women's Educational Activism in Antebellum America*, and being named a *Diverse: Issues In Higher Education* Emerging Scholar for 2020. She is the recipient of grants from the Massachusetts Historical Society, the Peabody Essex Museum, the National Park Service, the Organization of American Historians, and the Spencer Foundation.

I greatly appreciate Professor Baumgartner's willingness to take on this important role. As Dean, I reiterate COLA's commitment to building a more inclusive and equitable college. While the achievement of this goal will require the engagement and support of the entire COLA community, Professor Baumgartner will be especially critical in moving us forward.

Among the initiatives I have asked Professor Baumgartner to lead are drafting a proposal for a COLA mandatory social justice requirement; the establishment of a Center for Race and Culture; coordinating faculty workshops on teaching race and decolonizing syllabi; organizing COLA student cohorts to study race-based topics; and scheduling programming that showcases the work of Black, Indigenous and other people of color.

As we move forward, I want to acknowledge in particular the diligence and commitment of our ongoing Working Group on Social Justice: Professors Anna Wainwright (chair), David Kaye, Jason Sokol, and Lin Zhang.

Best wishes,  
Michele

Michele Dillon  
Dean, College of Liberal Arts



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