



March 2023

“What is the ICI?”

After one year and ten months, I am still challenged with a response to the question, “what is the ICI?” As Vennie often shares, when the ICI was originally created, he was uncertain of what it would become. Now, after ten [virtual community forums](#), the creation of four [task forces](#), two staff [summits](#), four [ICI Campus Community lunches](#), one [student summit](#), an inaugural [Food for Thought: Cultural Community Dinner](#) series, a solid [social media](#) presence and an [ICI Student Advisory Committee](#), we are only beginning to find our groove.

Our first year was spent identifying gaps in our support services for marginalized students and a lot of listening, *really* listening. The challenge, I have discovered, is an inability to snap my fingers and make things happen. What I can do is continue to spotlight student concerns and continue to create awareness with the larger campus about our marginalized student needs as we *collectively* make things happen.

Our second year has been spent on implementing opportunities to close these gaps by intentionally creating ways to increase DEI communications campuswide, intentionally creating community rebuilding spaces for students and staff while intentionally removing barriers for students to communicate their needs with staff and administration.

For year three, as we continue to provide ongoing support for marginalized students, we will spend time developing the significance of our ICI inclusive campus ecosystem at MSU. One need that clearly reveals itself through the ICI programming efforts is the number of students who are disconnected from campus support resources.

What is the ICI? Consistently, the ICI has been a problem-solving ground-up approach to supporting the ongoing needs of marginalized students. The need for support is greater than ever. The need for outreach is greater than ever. The need to rebuild the community is greater than ever. The needs keep piling up. Yet, with the outstanding [DEI efforts across MSU](#), I am not overwhelmed. I am inspired. The building of our inclusive campus ecosystem across this campus recognizes that we are all needed. We are all stakeholders.

New!

1. Inclusive Campus Initiative (ICI) Student Advisory Committee.

Creating leadership opportunities that center student voices is key to the success of the Inclusive Campus Initiative. Many of these students have been actively involved in the ICI in various capacities, some since the ICI began in May 2021. As a result of their leadership and advocacy at MSU along with their commitment to the ICI, these students were invited to serve on this committee. We look forward to continuing our relationship with them to create a more inclusive campus at MSU. [Learn more about each student here.](#)



2. Completed our inaugural Food for Thought: Cultural Community Dinner.

- Total of 108 participants (98 students and 10 staff).
- [Learn more about the FFT cultural dinners here.](#)
- **Upcoming! Save the Date for our March Food for Thought: Cultural Community Dinner**
 - Monday, Mar. 20 (6-7:30 p.m.) at Erickson Kiva



3. Upcoming! [ICI Campus Communities Lunches](#)

- **Monday, Mar. 20** (12-1:30 p.m.) at Brody Large Private Dining Room. [Register Here!](#)
 - Updates on Ramadan Culinary Services plan presented by Don Donagrandi, associate director of CS Residential Dining.
 - Guest presenter is **Kim Steed-Page**, director of MSU's [Student Parent Resource Center](#). Her presentation is called, "Positive Disruption: Connecting Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Trauma Work in Higher Education."
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Stay Updated! Visit ICI's Quick Links:

[Contact the ICI](#) | [ICI Student Advisory Committee](#) | [ICI Task Force Team](#)
[Campus Updates](#) | [ICI Campus Community Events](#) | [ICI Campus Community Lunches](#) | [Food for Thought: Cultural Community Dinners](#) | [Virtual Community Forums](#)
[History](#) | [Timeline](#) | [ICI End of year report \(2021-22\)](#)
