

Colleagues

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Dean's Corner

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Special Issue:

**Race & Poverty
 in Education**



Credits

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Eq·ui·ta·ble \ 'ek-wət-ə-bəl\

Random House Unabridged Dictionary defines 'equitable' as "characterized by equity or fairness; just and right; fair; reasonable: equitable treatment of all citizens." In considering the arena of education, national policy and state mandates might lead one to think that today's public school students are receiving an 'equitable' education. Nothing could be further from the truth.

From small rural schools to larger urban facilities, students are facing a disparity of educational experiences and resources based on skin color, cultural background, socio-economic status, and locale.

Grand Valley State University's College of Education faculty and staff recognize that to achieve an educational system committed to excellence and equity, a number of things must occur. Barriers must break down, ideas

must develop, research must be conducted, and issues such as race and poverty must be addressed.

Change does not happen by itself. It can be helped along with information that can be shared and pondered. That is why I'm excited to highlight this Special Issue of *COLLEAGUES*. The work and writings of outstanding educators demonstrate a commitment to making a change. I think the information we have pulled together will help you to better understand the complex issues of race and poverty in education. At the least it will give you pause to think. ☺

Elaine C. Collins, Ph.D.
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Thank you to the many contributors that made this issue possible. If you would like to be an author or artist for the next issue or have a story idea, please contact the *Colleagues* editorial staff at 616-331-6240 or pelonc@gvsu.edu.