

Dear Professor,

My name is Dr. Lisette Torres-Gerald. I am a member of a research team at TERC, a non-profit STEM education research and development organization in Cambridge, MA. My team and I are conducting a study called *Multiple Intersectionalities among Faculty in STEM: An Arts-Informed Exploratory Study (MIaFS)*. Our team is composed of Drs. Mia Ong, Nuria Jaumot-Pascual, and myself, and is being advised and supported by Dr. Luis Leyva from Vanderbilt University. We also count with the support of oSTEM-UGA. This project builds on our body of work that strives for equity and inclusion in STEM, including research with women of color, persons of color with disabilities, and two-spirit individuals.

We are contacting you as part of our recruitment efforts for this study. In this study, we want to learn about the lived experiences of LGBTQ2IA+ faculty of color in STEM. We are using the theoretical frameworks of intersectionality and QueerCrit to guide our work. The study uses a method called *arts-informed research*, where we ask participants to create artwork and/or take photographs that speak to their challenges and successes in STEM.

The study involves four steps, with an optional fifth step:

1. Watch a MIaFS orientation video (on our project webpage) about the processes involved in the study.
2. Create artwork or photographs **by June 14, 2021**, to answer the prompts that we will provide.
3. Participate in a one-on-one interview to talk about the artwork and/or photographs.
4. Work closely with the research team and all participants to design a 1-day virtual art symposium where participants can share their creations. We will select a mutually good time for everyone in early October.
5. Participate in an optional focus group that will be held for participants interested in meeting each other to share their experience with the project and as LGBTQ2IA+ faculty of color in STEM.

We are recruiting **faculty** who:

- Are employed at a college or university in the United States;
- Work on STEM-related topics;
- Have a doctorate (or other terminal degree) in a science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) discipline;
- Identify as being a person of color;
- Identify as being a member of the LGBTQ2IA+ community;
- Are open to creating art pieces or taking photographs, talking about them, and showing them in a public setting; and
- Are comfortable using a video conference system, such as Zoom, and being recorded.

If you are interested in participating in this study, we would like you to answer the questions in the following intake form: <https://surveys.terc.edu/NoviSurvey/n/zz1qv.aspx>

To the extent that you feel comfortable, feel free to also share this study with others who may be interested in participating.

All those who complete the interview will receive a \$200 stipend. Unfortunately, we may not be able to include in the study everyone who responds to the survey. If you are selected to participate in the study, I (Lisette Torres-Gerald) or a team member from TERC (Mia Ong or Nuria Jaumot-Pascual) will email you with information about the next steps.

Thanks for your interest in the study. I look forward to hearing from you!

Best,

Lisette Torres-Gerald, Ph.D.

Senior Research Associate and Program Coordinator

lisette_torres@terc.edu