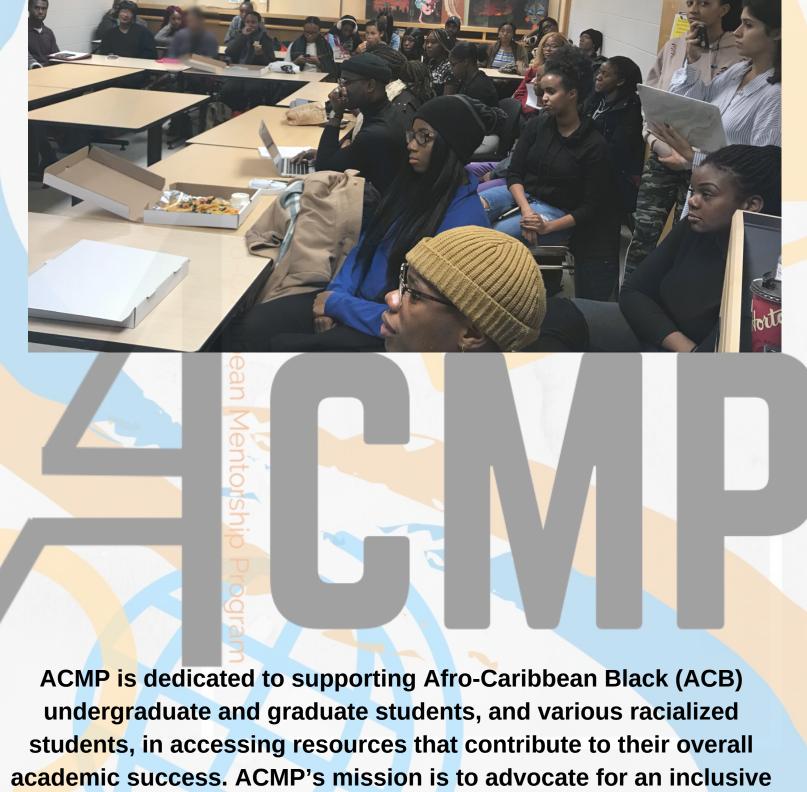


The Afro-Caribbean Mentorship Program (ACMP) is an initiative dedicated to supporting the success of Afro-Caribbean Black (ACB) and other racialized Carleton University undergraduate and graduate students on campus, while encouraging them to be confident members in our Ottawa community. We recognize that the experiences of ACB and other racialized minorities encounter racially charged microaggression that impede upon their social development as students. Advocating for an inclusive campus is ACMP's mission while supporting the success of racialized students.



ACMP is dedicated to supporting Afro-Caribbean Black (ACB) undergraduate and graduate students, and various racialized students, in accessing resources that contribute to their overall academic success. ACMP's mission is to advocate for an inclusive campus and support the success of racialized students. The core of ACMP is a series of monthly, two hour workshops, facilitated by myself (Warren Clarke) and guests from the university and the community. Workshops are responsive to students' needs; at the end of each workshop, students are asked what they would like to see highlighted at the next workshop.



ACMP will help mentor ACB and other racialized students in the following areas:

- Tips on applying to graduate programs
- Writing skills
- Practicing positive relationships
- Practicing safer sex
- Discussions of Black and Racialized Canadian scholars
- Conference readiness support
- Publication support
- Scholarship and bursary workshops
- Financial literacy
- Networking with professionals
- Communication skills
- Confidence building
- Resume and interview skills

Applying to University graduate programs (Master's or Ph.D programs)

Our first workshop took place on November 2nd,2018, and we facilitated a workshop on applying to University graduate programs (Master's or Ph.D). The past event responds to the the lack of diversity in Canadian graduate programs (CBC, 2017). We received an overwhelmingly positive response, with a turnout of 50 students (undergraduate and graduate) and two professors (Social Work and African Studies).

Those who attended were actively involved in the meeting by taking notes, pictures and participating in the discussion. The scheduled 2-hour event extended for an additional 30 minutes. It was suggested by the audience that ACMP should facilitate sessions every two weeks. The response of the audience indicates enthusiasm as the program is addressing a need that has been void for more than 25 years in Canadian universities (CBC, 2017).



Pean Mentoyship Program

Carleton Universities Sociology and Anthropology Department recognizes that racialized students encounter racially charged micro-aggressions here on campus. As such, the Department is committed to supporting this initiative. Also, the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS), Pauline Rankin, recognizes the importance of having a mentorship program, and is in full support of having ACMP at Carleton University.



Our next event!

ACMP has organized its next event, which focuses on teaching students how to network. This event will include Afro-Caribbean professionals, and many other community members from different ethnic groups, to participate in teaching students how to network but networking with them during the event.

The purpose of the event is to build stronger community ties in our Ottawa Afro-Caribbean geographical area between students and professionals. ACMP is mobilizing this event to be a learning experience for both students and professionals. Attendees will increase their networks while recognizing the need to support the social development of students.



References

Mattar, P., & Mohyeddin, S. (2017, January 16). Black PhD students call out inequality in Canadian academia. CBC Radio @ The Current. Retrieved https://www.cbc.ca/radio/thecurrent/the-current-for-january-16-2017-1.3934687/black-phd-students-call-out-inequity-in-canadian-academia-1.3934776