



Annual Report of the DEI Committee for FY25

Submitted by Ashleigh Quiroz, Committee Chair

Committee members:

- Ashleigh Quiroz (chair) ('23-'26)
- Meghan Cook ('23-'26)
- Anika Knight ('22-'25)
- Susan Kelly (22'-25')

Executive summary

The NAGT Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Committee is charged with facilitating the organization's efforts to achieve its goals related to diversity of its membership, leadership, committees, award winners, and participants in all events and reports to the Executive Committee.

Detailed report

Goals for committee work and progress towards them

The DEI Committee proudly awarded the 2025 Excellence in JEDI Award to Dr. Sammy Nyarko, recognizing Sammy's outstanding contributions and unwavering efforts in advancing DEI efforts.

On September 13, 2025, the committee hosted a webinar with 22 guests, titled "Holding Ground: Navigating as a DEI Advocate in Hostile Climates." This event featured the 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025 awardees of the Excellence in JEDI Award, who shared insights on current challenges impacting DEI spaces. The webinar concluded with a community "fireside chat" that fostered open dialogue and collaboration.

As we look ahead, the DEI Committee is committed to expanding our membership to better serve NAGT and our community. Due to low membership, previous goals from 2024 have been scaled back and adjusted. We aim to address these challenges by actively recruiting new members and enhancing our capacity to drive meaningful change.

Goals and planned committee work in the next year and beyond

The DEI Committee remains concerned about the increasing hostility and threats directed towards individuals engaged in DEI work. Recent developments have made DEI spaces actively unsafe for many, creating an environment where not everyone can safely associate their name with DEI initiatives, despite their support for these efforts.

This climate has significantly impacted committee membership, as individuals weigh the risks associated with public involvement in DEI activities. The committee still has hopes of recruiting more members to help us in continuing to advocate for inclusive practices within our community.