



MPI - Carolinas Chapter - Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Statement

MPI- Carolinas is a community of professionals who value inclusivity, professional development, action through ***purposeful connections*** with one another. This year, we have added a new focus for our board and our membership, and that focus is diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI).

We understand as a chapter that it's our responsibility to our members and our industry to embrace learning, conversations, and tangible outcomes of DEI that are current and to come. DEI is ever-changing and sometimes complex, but we dedicate each meeting in FY 2021-2022 to exploring new elements of DEI that represent various aspects of our industry. Those elements include meeting programs and new chapter policies presented by people of varying genders, races, cultures, ethnicities, abilities and disabilities, religions, ages, sexual orientations, and people with diverse backgrounds, experiences, and expertise. Some of the places where you may have already noticed our commitment to DEI and will continue to see it:

- Education Sessions and Programming
- University Partnerships and Mentoring
- Member Relations and Engagement
- MPI-Carolinas Board
- Marketing and Social Media
- Meeting Locations
- Registration
- Speakers
- Set-up
- F&B

This will be a new journey for us as a chapter and for some of us as individuals. We have a passion for teaching, learning, and growing together as a membership. Keeping that in mind, we ask for the following actions from our members:

1. Give us feedback and ask questions
2. Let us know what resources you need and topics you don't understand
3. Continue to be open, honest, and flexible about learning + development
4. Join our committee if you want to be an *active* ally

“Diversity is a FACT, but inclusion is a CHOICE we make every day! As leaders, we have to put out the message that we embrace and not just tolerate diversity.” - Nellie Borrero.

