Co-sponsored by the Office of Diversity, Inclusion and Equity Programs, Diversity Initiatives and Resources Centers, and the Faculty Development Center, “Building Community: Compassion and Resiliency in Turbulent Times” was a series of four sessions in which everyone in the Titan Community was invited to share their feelings on the state of the campus climate and their vision for an inclusive campus.

Facilitators asked participants four questions during each of the sessions:

1. What is one word that describes how you feel about the state of our campus climate right now?
2. What is your vision for an inclusive campus?
3. What is ONE thing you are willing to commit to doing to improve campus climate?
4. What is one word that describes how you feel about the state of our campus climate right now?
Participants organically characterized feelings about the campus climate into positive, negative, and moderate categories. Many of the feeling words in the first question were more negative and moderate but by the end of the session there was a clear shift to positive. Tense → hopeful
What is your vision for an inclusive campus?

Visions for an inclusive campus centered around belonging, safety, value, and acceptance. With focus on education, opportunities for dialogue, changing culture in classrooms, and recruitment and retention of more diverse faculty and staff.
Inclusive Campus

What is one thing you are willing to commit to doing to improve campus climate?

Actions were centered on education opportunities and self-awareness in listening skills. They also spoke to interpersonal interactions on active listening and acknowledgement. Many of the actions that participants committed to were directly tied to the visions that they expressed for an inclusive campus. According to attendees, wanting to create a safer and more knowledgeable campus means having to be more self-aware to learn and listen more.
The information collected at the Campus Dialogue series will be used to inform programs, events, trainings, and diversity and inclusion related initiatives on campus. The Office of Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity Programs will be creating opportunity for our campus community to follow through in their commitment to action by providing further dialogue and education opportunities and intentional partnerships around campus.