

Hello everyone,

My name is Aaron Beal. I am a engineering major, a student leader the Umoja Community program, as well as the Umoja club treasurer. I recently went to the EODAC meeting to support Dr. Parks' Racial Climate Task Force and to hear a little bit about what was going on in BC committees, as it pertains to my education. When a few of my fellow classmates and I walked in to the meeting, we were immediately greeted with hostility. As a few people were trying to get us some seats, two professors were talking. One of them said to the other, "why the F— are they coming in here?". It was a bit of noise from people giving chairs for us to sit, and maybe they didn't think anyone else would hear their comments, but I had a front row seat to what they were saying. I later found out their names. The one who said that was Professor Catherine Jones, and she said it to Professor Matt Garrett. Hearing this was so surprising, at a meeting talking about the equity of all students faculty, staff, and admin. It made it feel like we weren't supposed to be in that meeting. It was eye opening to see and hear something like that at this meeting, I just hope that our colored students don't have to experience something like this other places, that's why I was glad to hear about Dr. Parks task force