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Microaggressions:

As many people know, people of color often experience microaggressions in everyday life; however, these microaggressions are often experienced in and out of the classroom from peers and professors alike. When some students of color speak about their issues in class, many feel that their voices and opinions either go unheard or brushed over and diminished by their white counterparts. One student of color mentioned that they felt intimidated by their white colleagues in their on-campus job. Similarly, it is painfully evident that many students don't feel comfortable in their classrooms because there aren't enough teachers of color, and specifically Black faculty/staff to relate to.

Racial Profiling:

Lately, there has been an increase in the racial profiling of Black students. Many times students are questioned about their presence on campus by public safety officers for no reason and feel quite uncomfortable as a result. Many students also feel that their incident reports are not being taken seriously when they are filed. In an effort to correct these problems, there should be a process following up on reports made by students against public safety. This process can go through the Office of Institutional Diversity and Equity. There must be an accountability amongst the public safety department when students feel profiled. As students, their safety and comfort on this campus should be of the utmost importance to public safety.

Financial Aid:

Though DePaul is a private university and the tuition cost is expected, many students of color still struggle with paying for college. Often times, students of color will have a hold on their account and are unable to pay it off because they, nor their parents, simply do not have enough money to do so. Many students of color feel that there should not be holds on student accounts if their parents make less than a certain amount of money annually. Recently, the DePaulia released an article detailing the surplus budget of \$43 million. The article attributed this surplus budget to "conservative spending" and "an unexpected increase in tuition revenue. One student suggested that there be a program for students of color, similar to the Trio program; this program would cater to students of color better than the Trio program can.

Black Faculty/Staff:

Similarly, it is painfully evident that many students don't feel comfortable in their classrooms because there aren't enough teachers of color, and specifically Black faculty/staff to relate to.

Black Student Academic Success:

As evidenced by recent studies taken from the university, there are low retention, graduation, enrollment rates amongst Black students here at DePaul. As aforementioned in the Black Faculty/staff section, students feel they would do better in class and feel more comfortable asking for help if they saw more faculty/staff that looked like them. In the past few years, there has been a 4% decrease in Black students enrolling in the fall term here at DePaul.

Black Center:

An important solution to the problems listed out in the previous sections would be a center for Black students specifically. This center would be a place that Black students can go for every academic and social need they may have while attending DePaul. Many other universities have a center like this and following suit would be a very important part in fixing the enrollment issue amongst Black students.