



COSPAR Statement on Combating Systemic Racism and Other Forms of Discrimination

On 9 June 2020 the International Science Council (ISC) issued a [statement](#) on combating systemic racism and other forms of discrimination, a statement which COSPAR strongly supports. COSPAR has as one of its core principles to promote diversity and gender equality in all of its activities, and will not tolerate any form of discrimination or harassment. The ISC calls upon us to go further, and to engage in the ongoing global dialogue on the persistent and too often invisible scourge of systemic racism in all sectors of society, including science.

Accordingly, COSPAR issues the following statement reiterating our principles, acknowledging the problem, and committing to action:

COSPAR seeks to uphold principles of inclusivity and diversity, to defend the free and responsible practice of science, to promote equitable opportunities and to oppose all forms of discrimination. COSPAR acknowledges the pain of injustice to colleagues subjected to racism and all other forms of prejudicial treatment within the institutions of science. We recognize that silence and inaction sustain discriminatory practices, and acknowledge our responsibility to re-commit to action that supports equality and justice by advocating necessary changes in science systems throughout the world.

We call on our Members and Associates to engage in undertaking urgent action: to gather existing knowledge on discrimination in science; to convene a global dialogue within and beyond the institutions of science; and to agree on additional concrete steps aimed at correcting systemic discrimination in science.

Solutions to global problems require global scientific collaboration. We must work together to ensure that such collaboration is supported by a system that is inclusive and just.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L.A. Fisk'.

L.A Fisk
COSPAR President