

5 June 2020

## Values at Brock University

Brock University has received questions and concerns about a paper that was written by a Brock researcher, which was published and then withdrawn by the German-based journal *Angewandte Chemie*. The paper questions the merit of diversity and equality in the academy.

Brock University's values include freedom of thought and expression, as well as academic freedom coupled with academic responsibility. As a University we serve society through the cultivation of enquiring minds, while acknowledging that our freedoms are accompanied by a responsibility to foster civility in critical dialogue. The recent paper by the researcher does not reflect the values of Brock University.

There is also a value and commitment to inclusivity, diversity and equity. As evidenced by numerous major initiatives in recent years, Brock is committed to equity and diversity across the academy and the workplace. This commitment promotes excellence in research and teaching by engaging the widest range of contributors and by enriching the scope of perspectives in the university community. It reflects principles of fairness and justice, in light of the historical and systemic barriers to opportunity experienced by equity-seeking groups.

Brock has made significant strides to ensure the University reflects the values and strategic priorities established by our Senate and Board, which include fostering a culture of inclusivity, accessibility, reconciliation and decolonization. Our faculty and staff work very hard to embody these principles and to ensure there is an outstanding learning and working environment for all members of the Brock community. Actions detracting from these efforts and principles do a disservice to us all.