**Colleagues Say the Darndest Things**

How Would you Respond?

* All this talk about diversity and institutional transformation is just political correctness.
* Diversity training is just opinions, not facts.
* This has nothing to do with \_\_\_ (fill in your discipline here).
* Isn’t Affirmative Action just reverse racism?
* White males are the real target group now.
* I think the fieldwork may be too demanding for her.
* We simply don’t have people of color in the applicant pool.
* I’m not the one who discriminated against them. I never owned slaves.
* All I did was tell her she looked hot in that outfit. I don’t know why she’s so upset.
* She doesn’t look like she has a disability.
* Why in the world do we need “gender inclusive” restrooms?
* Racism isn’t a problem because there aren’t any people of color here.
* She’s wasting her time with too much service when she should be focused on research.
* He’s such a good community citizen taking on that one committee for service.
* It’s just not practical to make the lab accessible for people in wheelchairs.
* Homosexuality isn’t like other forms of oppression because they choose their oppression.
* I hear she’s taking six months of maternity leave. She must not be serious about her work.
* People are too sensitive. They take everything so seriously. Can’t anybody take a joke anymore?
* Women fall behind in STEM because of the choices they make to have children.
* If poor people would just make better choices, they could raise themselves out of poverty.
* Why would we need a support group for LGBT students? Sexual identity has nothing to do with STEM professions.
* I’m not a racist. I don’t discriminate against people of color.
* We’re a very diverse unit. Almost half of our faculty are international faculty from Asian countries.
* Feminists are anti-male.
* Sara and Eve invited me to their wedding, but I’m not going. I think marriage is between a man and a woman.
* This applicant is Vietnamese. I don’t think his language skills will be good enough.
* What does she mean she doesn’t feel safe in the lab at night? Work has to be done when it has to be done.
* We should get all the faculty members and their wives together for a social gathering to build community.
* I’m not going to say “queer.” It makes me uncomfortable. I don’t care what they want us to call them.