

*EDI Reading Newsletter, 31 August 2020*

*As part of the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion team here at the IfA, we're introducing a newsletter to share readings that we've found inspirational and informative. Our hope (and expectation!) is that everyone takes a few minutes to engage with the shared writing. Agree or disagree with what's written, it is valuable to increase our literacy for informed discussions and decisions.*

Writer: Mike Petersen

What we're reading this fortnight: I picked the University's Thematic Review for black and minority ethnic (BME) Students, which presents interviews with BME students, general themes for their experience at the University, some successes, and some failures: <https://www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/thematicreview2018-19-bme-students-finalreport.pdf>

Why we're reading it: The review blends a mixture of lived experience quotes, recommendations and commendations from a focus-group survey of BME students and staff. The material is an opportunity to check one's privilege and consider how the experiences of others might differ.

What you should read: (In 10 minutes) the executive summary; (in 30 minutes) the commendations and recommendations tables; (in two hours) the entire review.

Discussion question: How do these individual experiences relate to the day-to-day experience at the IfA?

*We are currently shifting the coffee meeting schedule for EDI discussion. We plan on meeting next on 28 September at 3.00pm to discuss both this newsletter and the next one (scheduled for 14 September). In the meantime, please feel free to discuss in the EDI Teams channel.*