



Feb. 18, 2021

Dear UMB Community,

Thank you to everyone who joined our first President's Panel on Politics and Policy (P4) of 2021. It was an insightful conversation with Ibram X. Kendi, PhD, MA, one of America's foremost historians and leading antiracist scholars as well as a National Book Award-winning and bestselling author. If you missed the discussion, you can watch it [here](#).

I am pleased to announce that the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) will host a Universitywide book club-style discussion of Professor Kendi's *New York Times* bestseller "How to Be an Antiracist."

In partnership with the School of Nursing's "Booked for Lunch" book club, we will offer small-group, virtual facilitated sessions to discuss Professor Kendi's book and apply our learning and understanding as we continue our quest to better understand the barriers of systemic and structural racism. Each group will engage in the same facilitated conversations and produce a final document that will be shared in another town hall session with all participants in a few months.

Please [register here](#) to join a group.

My hope is that these conversations will help UMB become an antiracist university with a more equitable, inclusive, and welcoming environment for all who learn, work, and serve here. I look forward to announcing our next P4 speaker soon.

Sincerely,

**Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS**  
*President*

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