"One human life is deeper than the ocean. Strange fishes and sea-monsters and mighty plants live in the rock-bed of our spirits. The whole of human history is an undiscovered continent deep in our souls. There are dolphins, plants that dream, magic birds inside us. The sky is inside us. The earth is in us."

— Ben Okri, *The Famished Road*

Dear CMind Friends,

Sawubona! We see you!

Happy May and the end of the academic year! For those of us engaged in higher education, the end of the Spring Semester brings with it the students’ anxiety of final exams, the frenzy of grading, the glee of commencement celebrations, and joyful sadness of new beginnings. It is a moment in the academic year where the gamut of the emotions of the human experience are deeply felt and rightly experienced. Be with it all. Feel everything.

Over the last couple of months, CMind has been engaged in dynamic programming exploring how we might heal and be healed in higher education. I encourage you to view our [Healing Higher Education](https://www.cmind.org) programs as time permits. I offer abundant gratitude to our presenters for their
presence and wisdom.

This week, The Reservoir bestows upon each of us the gift of spaciousness. Space provides the opportunity to see things differently, to engage in the everything of nothingness, and to bring attention to both the full and desolate places of our being.

In the spirit of fahima ife's *maroon choreographies* (2021), I experiment below with space—word—spirit—freedom. "Be alive, be willing" (ife, 2021, p. 56).

Be well.
Be still.
Trust in the infinite.
Remember our shared humanity.
Be community.
Be of good courage.

DRM

David W. Robinson-Morris, Ph.D.
Executive Director
The Center for Contemplative Mind in Society (CMind)

12 May 2022

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**SPACIOUSNESS**

David W. Robinson-Morris, PhD.

present peace.

questioning silence.       unspoken response.

narrowness giving way

to wide dreaming
space. Airy.

We be limitless. Creators.

WHOLE healing

human BEING.

empty.

cosmic

rest in sweeping dance.

FREE.

David W. Robinson-Morris, PhD. serves as the Executive Director for The Center for Contemplative Mind in Society (CMind), and is the Founder and Chief ReimagineLutionary at The REImaginelution, LLC, a strategic consulting firm working at the intersections of imagination, policy, practice, and prophetic hope to radically reimagine diversity, equity, and inclusion toward racial justice and systemic transformation by engendering freedom of the human spirit.

Dr. Robinson-Morris is a scholar, author, philosopher, social justice and human rights advocate-activist, educator, philanthropist, community organizer, DEI practitioner, and administrator. He is the author of a research monograph titled, Ubuntu and Buddhism in Higher Education: An Ontological (Re)Thinking published by
David is actively engaged in several civic, educational, and human rights organizations throughout the city of New Orleans, state of Louisiana, and the Gulf South region. He is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. and is a native of Galveston, Texas.

Freedom is Our Birthright Practice
By David Robinson-Morris PhD.
Join us for our 18th year!

Past attendees have referred to our annual Summer Sessions as their “yearly tune-up”: a chance for personal reflection, community, and self-care, combined with professional development.

Questions we will explore include:
• What paths might lead us from human-centric to Earth-centric practices?
• How do we cultivate wellness in learning environments, holding space for our powerful emotions?

This online event offers a rich offering of plenary presentations, practical sessions, discussion, and small-group work. Newcomers to contemplative pedagogy are welcome.

Learn more here

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Healing Higher Education series. You can view the series from our webpage here.

You can also view this series and other CMind initiatives from CMind's YouTube page.
CMind and the Journal of Contemplative Inquiry (JOCI) Editorial Leadership Team are happy to announce the publication of the JOCI special issue, *Transcendent Wisdom and Transformative Action: Reflections from Black Contemplatives*.

The 360+ page special edition features 23 papers focusing on the insights and wisdom of Black contemplative practitioners, researchers, scholars, educators and artists.

On behalf of the CMind Board of Directors, we are equally as pleased to announce that JOCI is now an open access journal. We recognize the need to democratize knowledge and provide unlimited access to the wisdom shared by contemplative educators, scholars, practitioners, philosophers, and seekers.
The Association for Contemplative Mind in Higher Education (ACMHE) is a professional academic association for all who bring contemplative practices and perspectives into their work in higher education. Member benefits include fee discounts for ACMHE and CMind events, access to the Journal of Contemplative Inquiry, a member directory, forum, webinar archive, and more.

Join over 800 members worldwide who are creating integrative, inclusive, and transformative education.

Join ACMHE Today
Mindfulness Network for People of Color invites you to join this retreat for presentations, discussions, break-out rooms, as well as to immerse yourself in the exploration, healing, and community-centered approach around our relationship to the concept of belonging.

These nine days are designed to provide you with the tools and foundations of mindfulness. This gentle and powerful program starts and ends with a presentation,
with guided meditations each morning and evening during the week. With simple
tools, you will be able to make choices in life, deepen your connection to your body,
practice self-care, and cultivate compassion for yourself and others. This is an
invitation into the heart of meditation practice.

Are you a new reader? Welcome!

The Reservoir is a newsletter from CMind, The Center for Contemplative
Mind in Society. We intend this newsletter as a moment of respite in your busy day.

Click Here to Subscribe to The Reservoir
The Center for Contemplative Mind in Society (CMind) is a global community of contemplative practitioners whose goal is the ongoing development of racial, social, economic, and environmental justice and the advancement of human flourishing. CMind’s mission is to positively and progressively transform society through diverse contemplative practices.

Visit ContemplativeMind.org

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