As our society continues the struggle toward racial justice, the Leadership Studies Undergraduate Research Team (CSCTW) recommits itself to the mission of providing online resources that facilitate the collection, organization, and sharing of student leadership success stories to educate the personally and socially responsible leaders of tomorrow.

1. “Systemic racism remains a reality in American society, despite belief in racial equality on the part of most individuals. Historically, our governments [including colleges], our economy, and many private institutions seeded or perpetuated discrimination against racial minorities to the political, economic, and social advantage of whites” (ADAH 2020) “Legacies of blatantly racist systems that operated for hundreds of years” remain in our systems, our social structures, ourinteractions, and the power dynamics that influence each.
2. CSCTW is not immune to this legacy. The principal investigators are white female faculty that do not share the identities of the minoritized populations they study. The Undergraduate Research Team is selected from a predominately-white student body at a predominately-white institution. Therefore, our members may not fully understand the human experience of HBCU students and African Americans in the 1960s.
3. Despite valuing inclusion, equity, and justice, “as an organization we remain mostly white, especially in [team] leadership. Even with a serious, sustained commitment to understand the historical roots of injustice and its present manifestations, we cannot know the full [perspective and emotions experienced] by African Americans who have lived different realities in the past and today. We listen and study with [the intent of being empathic], but our understanding requires ongoing work.”

Our recommitment includes these objectives.

1. We will continue and expand efforts of the past [decade and a half] to collect, [document,] and tell [a fully inclusive representation of both the primary and counternarrative of the events surrounding the 1960 Alabama State College Sit-Ins]. If history is to serve the present, it must offer an honest [and complete] assessment of the past.”
2. We will be a facilitator of [engaging content and computer-based experiences with the ASC Sit-In stories and] public dialogue, through mutually respectful interactions and discussions of the design and use of technology to tell relevant historical stories while generating meaning-making for learning.
3. We will pursue greater diversity and empowerment on the CSCTW Team through our daily commitment to being a welcoming environment that embraces and supports every member, implementing recruitment and education initiatives to build perspectives that understand the populations we study. We will [be] a welcoming, inclusive community of colleagues, and [offer] meaningful opportunities to contribute to the work of the [team].
4. We will model and advocate for responsible stewardship of the historical materials collected by and activists stories gifted to Dr. Boyd and honor the commitment she made to preserve and share THEIR stories. As communities struggle with the role of protest in democracy, this team dedicates itself and its efforts to capturing and conveying these activists’ lived experiences, their perspectives, and their times, thus allowing others to (at least) virtually “meet and know them” as they made history.

Our recommitment includes the continued development of the following:

8. Continue analyzing data that will enhance the game content and empower individuals to identify their own passions or voices they wish to magnify within the project

Team - processing AV file transcripts and creating 2020-21 priority gem clips,

archival files, and other resources for game content

Individual - 360 online maps, interactive driving map, trail transcript analysis, Kouses and Posner applied to activists, empathy team research IRB

9. Identifying best (as defined by the empowered perspectives of an informed and diverse research team that freely, yet respectfully, challenges one another for the good of the project) selected gem events to include in the game using empathy and ethical framework questions

10. write believable, historically/interperpersonally/culturally accurate, engaged, and empathy maximizing game script and dialogue for character interactions, concept art, and accompanying game wireframe

11. Create, test, and assess a working prototype (Version 1.1) for effective development of learning outcome and accessibility of learning to all communities and users

12. Inclusive Dissemination - includes the website for CSCTW. Share the ASC Sit-in resources developed and the processes by which they were developed. Invite the collection and archiving of additional student leadership stories using these resources and frameworks.

13. Find more civil rights contextual content from relevant archives and scholarly sources to enhance the current and expand the reach of the project.

14. A never ending commitment to do better, when we know better. (Paraphrasing Maya Angelou)

Acknowledge the AHAD Statement of Recommitment as the model for the Statement and Source of the quoted content.