

**From:** [Campus Climate Proposal form](#)  
**To:** [Libby Peterek](#); [Carrie Olson](#)  
**Subject:** New submission from Campus Climate Proposals  
**Date:** Thursday, April 21, 2016 1:21:06 PM

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**Group name (if applicable):**

School of Education - MERIT Library

**What is your affiliation with UW-Madison? For group submissions, please respond for main contact.**

- Academic Staff

**Describe the concept. If already in use here or elsewhere, please indicate this.**

We'd like to host an annual "Human Library" They began in Scandinavia, (<http://humanlibrary.org/>) and a former School of Education colleague has now hosted them successfully for the past four years at East Carolina University. We'd model it after those events -- for more details visit: <http://www.ecu.edu/cs-admin/news/humanlibrary.cfm>

**How would this affect cultural change on campus?**

The purpose of this event is to really encourage people to really listen to those that are different than how they identify. The event provides a safe structure for those who are interested in learning more to do so in a way that is not offensive to those who have chosen to be human "books."

**For new ideas, how would you propose piloting this idea to see if it would work? If the idea is already in use at UW-Madison, how would you propose expanding or altering this program for greater impact?**

I don't think this idea has been tried on our campus yet.

**What resources would be needed to implement your suggestion?**

We've got the space (large library), and the staff who can help organize and advertise. We've got ties to media outlets who could help promote and/or cover the event. The biggest and most important resource that we need is to find humans willing to be the "books" available for check-out.

**If this proposal was developed in partnership with any other organizations, please list them below.**

College Library is also interested in collaborating with our library on this idea. I know that when I mentioned the idea to Patrick Sims - he said that they were already thinking of offering a Human Library during National Diversity Week in November. We'd be happy to help out.