

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.