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Facing a Shadow The Myth of White Superiority and Other Inferiority

Monday, March 2, 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. | Fralin Life Sciences Institute Auditorium

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In this talk, **Dr. Marlene Watson** will address the prevailing myth of white superiority and other inferiority and the ways in which it structures perception, both consciously and unconsciously. Because of our democratic ideals of justice, fairness, and equality, she says, the myth of white superiority and other inferiority lives mostly in our unconscious minds, forming a shadow.

A shadow's nature is to hide, thus denial is entrenched in race relations. Not being part of our conscious self-image, a shadow can appear abruptly as a racial microaggression or worse, becoming a barrier to race relations. A shadow must be faced. The myth of white superiority and other inferiority must be consciously named, accepted, and challenged to cultivate a deeper self-knowledge and authenticity in race relations.