

Google's chief diversity officer departs in shame

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Google's chief diversity officer departs with gusto

Danielle Brown is leaving Google after serving not-quite 2 years as VP of employee engagement and CDO.

Brown will be joining Gusto as chief people officer.

Her [announcement](#), in which she describes Gusto as “a company that is all about people,” does not mention Google.

Do we smell intrigue?

Possibly. Google's diversity department has been somewhat of a revolving door recently. The last out was [Nancy Lee](#), who attempted to address Google's weak diversity numbers for several years before leaving in 2016.

When she left, she claimed she was retiring, but soon after joined Lime. *“Awkward move, Nancy. We literally know everything.” – Google, probably.*

The tech giant, which has [long faced criticism](#) for its lack of diversity, was thrown into the spotlight shortly after Brown's arrival when a since-fired Google engineer posted [an anti-diversity manifesto](#).

A quick stroll down diversity-and-inclusion-mishap lane

The memo became somewhat of a tipping point for the [inclusion sh*tstorm](#) that's been raging ever since, with complaints and discrimination lawsuits flying on all sides over gender pay gap claims and workplace rights.

There was also a [boycott](#) over military contracts and a 20k-employee walkout over the company's handling of [sexual harassment claims](#) against high-level *googly-eyed* execs.

News of Brown's departure comes shortly after the release of Google's 2018 [diversity reports](#), which garnered a collective "meh." The CDO role will be filled by Melonie Parker, who has served as head of diversity for 9 months.