

A RESOLUTION to declare that Black Lives Matter and that the lives of Black students matter;

WHEREAS, the Allan Hancock College Academic Senate acknowledges the recent deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Sandra Bland, Trayvon Martin, Tamir Rice, Tony McDade, and too many other victims of racial violence;

WHEREAS, these deaths are part of a long legacy of racial oppression and discrimination in this country, rooted in systemic, socio-economic, and racist injustice that continues to grow and threatens the current and future well-being of our students of color, and indeed all students;

WHEREAS, we express solidarity with the millions of Americans raising their voices and with the protesters in Minnesota and in every state and throughout the world, who are peacefully expressing their outrage and frustration at police violence that, yet again, took an unarmed Black person's life;

WHEREAS, we echo the calls for justice in response to the death of George Floyd and the countless other unarmed African Americans, and Indigenous/Native Americans, and Chicana/o/x, Latina/o/x, and Arab Americans, and Asian Americans, and LGBTQ+ Americans who have been targeted for their race, their ethnicity, their religion, their language, their perceived abilities, their age, their gender identities or sexual orientations;

WHEREAS, schools should be places for the implementation, practice, and continuous improvement of equity, which in turn builds understanding, creates knowledge, and actively engages all of us in the clearing of pathways to freedom and justice and inclusion for all; and

WHEREAS, the Allan Hancock College Academic Senate upholds the ideals of equal justice under the law, racial justice, and human dignity for all of our students;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Allan Hancock College Academic Senate declares that the lives and rights of our Black students matter;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Allan Hancock College Academic Senate affirms the rights of all students, staff, faculty, and administrators from marginalized groups to be treated with respect and dignity within schools and communities;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Allan Hancock College Academic Senate will address systemic and institutional racism and injustice, white supremacy, and inequitable systems of power and privilege on our campus and to offer spaces for dialogue among all faculty (instructional, counseling, librarians, specialists, college nurse, adjunct faculty), classified professionals, and staff by supporting and facilitating professional development work related to race and other challenging topics;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Allan Hancock College Academic Senate encourages members of the Allan Hancock College community to devote their professional energies to critical examination of the concepts of: equal justice under the law, racial justice, anti-racism, systemic and institutional racism, white supremacy, and privilege—across classrooms and other academic, co-curricular spaces, including virtual/online campus spaces;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Allan Hancock College Academic Senate encourages faculty across disciplines and content areas to specifically include, in their programs and curricula, materials that not only address but deeply examine topics of anti-racism, racial bias, systemic racism and injustice—both historic and contemporary —and the ways that both oppression and resistance manifest themselves in different vocations and fields of study;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Allan Hancock College Academic Senate invites faculty across disciplines and content areas to use resources that are inclusive of all of our diverse learners and to transform instruction throughout the whole year, not just in one unit or chapter, one week or one month;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Allan Hancock College Academic Senate will stand in solidarity with students who lead non-violent on-campus demonstrations and other educational events related to dismantling systemic and institutional racism, white supremacy, and anti-democratic relations of power and privilege; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Allan Hancock College Academic Senate will encourage ongoing critical conversations and reflections regarding systemic racism, social injustice, and bias for staff, faculty, and administrators necessary to implement anti-racist and liberatory systemic change that will transform our work with our students.

Adopted June 16, 2020

Note: this document was based off of language provided by our colleagues from El Camino College's Academic Senate