

The CI Staff Council Statement in Solidarity and Support for Black Communities within and beyond CSU Channel Islands

The CI Staff Council at CSU Channel Islands (CSUCI) wrote this statement to confront the actions that continue to affect the lives of our Black communities. We recognize the broken system that has allowed these atrocities to occur across the country, as well as in our own backyards. We stand against any and all systems which allow these actions to occur and which oppress and harm members of our community.

The CI Staff Council not only stands in solidarity with our Black staff, but with our Black students and faculty on our campus and beyond. We stand with all Black communities, which include, but are not limited to, Black women, Black men, Black transgender communities, Black LGBTQIAP+ communities, and Black communities with disabilities.

Clearly stated, we support the Black Lives Matter Movement and affirm ALL BLACK LIVES MATTER.

We must stand up for a culture of activism and reject all forms of explicit and implicit racism, to change the racial injustices we see in our media and for those that happen every day, right in front of us. We are committed to engaging in dialogue on our campus to work towards dismantling oppressive systems ingrained in our educational community. As we challenge, learn, and recognize the growth and accountability needed to create trust and safety for our campus community, specifically our staff of color; we want to implore everyone to take time and sit in your uncomfortableness, for it is in our discomfort where we find true compassion and understanding.

It is imperative as staff representatives that we recognize the privilege and power that comes with these positions. As a new Executive Board and a new Council of representatives, we will use this privilege to ensure our work this upcoming year will prioritize Black lives and remain committed to being anti-racist. In order to achieve our goals of advocacy, transparency, and empowerment we ask that you join us in continued personal education around anti-racism and anti-Blackness, holding our institution and peers accountable, and engage in dialogue with one another as we work to dismantle our oppressive systems. Please feel free to contact CI.StaffCouncil@csuci.edu to share your thoughts, provide constructive feedback, or ask any questions.