

**Overview Summary and Recommendations of Black Studies & Ethnic Studies Task Force
Report for Academic Senate and Academic Affairs
November 10, 2020**

Task Force Members

Delashay Carmona Benson – GSU Student President and BSU President
Cathy Burgett – Culinary Arts
Rima Dasgupta – Sociology
Brenda Flyswithhawks - Psychology
Robert Holcomb – Dean Language Arts & Academic Foundations
Lori Kuwabara - English
Laura Larqué - History
Jesekah Loggins - Counseling
Regina Mahiri – Advisor, Student Life Accounts & Marketing Programs
Amanda Morrison – Our House Intercultural Center Petaluma
Geoff Navarro – Counseling
Jose Emmanuel Raymundo – Humanities
Byron Reaves – EOPS Counseling
Tammy Sakanashi – Interim Dean Health Sciences
George Sellu – Agriculture
Lauren Servais – English
Jerry Thao – Counseling
Jocelyn Toscano – GSU Student Trustee
Robert Tuico – Counseling

Dates of Meetings

October 13, 20, and 27, 2020
November 3 and 10, 2020

Background

At its Special Meeting on July 22, the Academic Senate voted to “endorse creation of a Black Studies major as the first and most urgent component of an Ethnic Studies program at SRJC and, to that end, partner with the Vice President of Academic Affairs in creating an ad-hoc task force.” The Task Force first meeting was an introduction meeting on October 13, 2020. We met with Academic Senate President Julie Thompson and VP Academic Affairs, Dr. Jane Saldana-Talley and received clarification regarding the group’s purpose, expectations, timelines, and responsibilities. The priority goal is for the Task Force to “present its recommendations at an Academic Senate listening session Fall 2020, allowing the Senate to deliberate, vote on recommendations, and initiate the next steps in the process.”

The Task Force meetings were every Tuesday for one-hour, beginning on October 20 and ending November 10, 2020. Each meeting was facilitated by Robert Holcomb and all members participated in the discussion. We develop collegiate relationship through introductions and sharing our Task Force *Statements of Interest* in Google Share. Microsoft Teams was established as a central location to post input, questions, and suggestions.

Research

- SRJC Ethnic Studies Department and courses 1975-1996 Catalogs (October 27)
- SRJC Schedule of Classes for Ethnic Studies courses 1976-1978 (October 27)
- Dismantle of SRJC Ethnic Studies Department Dr. Dianne Smith (October 27)
- Existing Programs and Departments at CCC, UC, and CSU (October 27)
 - CCC College of San Mateo Ethnic Studies Program
 - CCC Skyline College African Diaspora Program
 - CCC Fresco City College African American Studies Program
 - CCC Contra Costa College African American Studies Program
 - CSU San Diego Chicana & Chicano Studies Program
 - CSU Long Beach Ethnic Studies Program
 - CSU San Francisco Ethnic Studies Program
 - UC Berkeley African American Studies Department
 - UC San Diego Ethnic Studies Department
 - UC Santa Barbara Black Studies Department
- Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum Guideline 2020 (Assembly Bill 2016) (October 27)
- Board of Education K-12 Black Studies Curriculum Approval (October 27)
- CSU Ethnic Studies Graduation Requirement (AB 1460) (November 3)
- CI-D Guide to Submitting Course Outlines for CI-D Designation (November 3)
- Consultation with Kate Blackwell, SRJC Articulation Officer (November 3)
- UC Davis Ethnic Studies & Transfer Information Virtual Session (November 10)

Discussion

- Identify Task Force structure and how to organize our work (October 20)
- Identify preferred degree majors and programs (October 20)
- Create department/programs grid for degree majors and programs (October 20)
- Identify difference between *Program* and *Department* (October 27)
- Finalized department/program grid for degree majors and programs (October 27)
- Black Ethnic Studies Summer Institute 2021 for students and faculty (October 27)
- Identify SRJC existing Ethnic Studies courses, articulation with UC/CSU (November 3)
- Identify current SRJC BIPOC faculty and their areas of expertise (November 3)
- Determine staff and faculty need for Ethnic Studies Department (November 3)
- Subcommittee created to develop recommendations for Academic Senate (November 3)
- Review and finalize recommendations for Academic Senate (November 10)

Recommendations

1. We recommend Academic Affairs establish an Ethnic Studies Department no later than **Fall 2021** to include the following five Program Majors:
 - Asian American and Pacific Islander American Studies
 - African American Studies
 - Chicanx and Latinx Studies
 - Native American and Indigenous Studies
 - Ethnic Studies

2. We recommend the following faculty staffing needs for The Ethnic Studies Department:
 - One Department Chair
 - One full-time Program Coordinator for each Program Major (5 total)
 - One additional full-time faculty for each program major
3. We recommend current full-time SRJC Black Indigenous People of Color (BIPOC) faculty with the academic expertise, to fulfill the immediate department faculty needs that would be effective Spring 2021, including the Department Chair and Program Coordinators. These faculty will inform the implementation of recommendations 4, 5, and 6.
4. We recommend hiring at least *two* full-time African American faculty *immediately* to meet the faculty staffing need for the African American Studies program, to be included in the 2021-2022 staffing request.
5. We recommend hiring at least two full-time Native American Indigenous faculty *immediately* to meet the faculty staffing need for the Native American Indigenous Studies program, to be included in the 2021-2022 staffing request.
6. We further recommend hiring full-time BIPOC faculty for any other Program Majors in need of a faculty Program Coordinator, to be included in the 2021-2022 staffing request and no later than the 2022-2023 staffing request.
7. We recommend the development of an African American Studies Major *immediately*, for submission to the Curriculum Committee Spring 2021.
8. We recommend the development of Asian American and Pacific Islander American Studies and Ethnic Studies Majors, to be included in the 2021-2022 staffing request and no later than 2022-2023 staffing request.
9. We recommend the Ethnic Studies Department be a part of the Behavioral and Social Sciences academic cluster.
10. We recommend hiring a full-time dedicated BIPOC Academic Counselor with an expertise in Ethnic Studies, to be included in the 2021-2022 staffing request. Our preference is for an African American counselor.
11. We recommend the Academic Senate collaborate with AFA to negotiate with the District equitable reassign time for the Ethnic Studies Department Program Coordinators.