

5, 2020

It's no exaggeration to say that our country is at a pivotal point in its history. We have an opportunity to honestly and openly address racism and take concerted action to fulfill our promises to our students. We must look at our own campus and work to make immediate changes. Please engage in conversations with your students, colleagues and the wider campus community to discuss how we can make a difference now.

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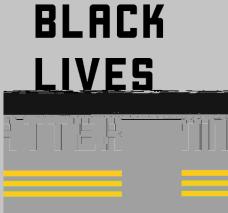
Note: This message was sent to all students on Sunday, May 31.

Dear Foothill Students,

I pray you are staying healthy and making progress with your classes.

Foothill College stands in solidarity with efforts that bring to light racism in our country. Our college stands against racism and the oppressive systems that maintain it. Foothill has committed to doing its own part in dismantling racism as expressed in our working definition of equity.

"Believing a well-educated population is essential to sustaining a democratic and just society, we commit to the work of equity, which is to dismantle oppressive systems (structural, cultural, and individual) and create a college community where success is not predictable by race."



We are living in unprecedented times, and it can be very difficult to stay focused on school and work. This pandemic, along with the economic fallout, has turned our world upside down, and now the civil unrest is turning our country inside out. Racism has a long, painful history in the United States.

What is happening right now affects each of us and our families differently - often times based on our own race and our lived racial experiences.

It is our humanity that requires us to come together. Our efforts with physical distancing due to the

pandemic is an act of love: a collective act of people coming together (remotely) to help each other not contract the disease and for our healthcare system not to be overwhelmed.

The peaceful protests throughout the country in response to the murders of George Floyd and other Black men and women is another act of love and community. Professor Cornel West, who spoke at Foothill College in January, reminds us that "justice is what love looks like in public."

Please reach out to each other and talk about how race and privilege play a role in your life. You are college students, and you are engaging in an extraordinary exercise of education that is meant to liberate your mind and improve your life.

Besides reflecting on one's own role, be proactive in fighting against racism in all its forms. It is one thing to not be a racist; it is another to be anti-racist.

The Associated Students of Foothill College are hosting a student town hall on Tuesday at noon via Zoom. Join me, faculty, staff, and student leaders as we discuss social justice and student concerns related to online learning. You can also join student clubs that promote social justice causes.

Foothill is here to support you. Recent events coupled with the pandemic may be confusing and intense. Psychological Services & Personal Counseling welcome you to benefit from confidential appointments to talk online or by phone for support with a licensed mental health counselor. To make an appointment or attend a drop-in, call 650.949.7910 or go to our website.

Our college has a philosophy of "Service Leadership" where we encourage you to harness your leadership voice and leadership skills through the service of others. Now is the time for you as a college student to lead if we are to have a real chance at making progress in race relations in our country.

Even though we are physically distanced, it does not mean that we cannot come together to stand up for social justice.

Be safe. Be kind. Be courageous. Lead.

Affectionately,

Thuy T. Nguyen President

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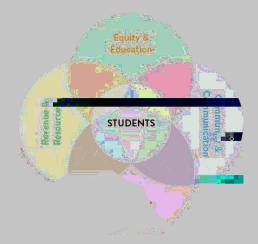
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• Zumba for Mental Wellness

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- LGBTQ+ Month Lecture: Proud Gay Parent Scotty Plannette
- Humanities Mellon Scholars Info Session

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We're celebrating LGBTQ Heritage Month with speakers and others events. Check out the <u>Heritage Month site</u> for details.

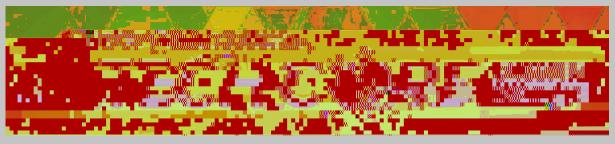


Photography instructor has been selected as a fellow for the Stanford Education Partnership for Internationalizing Curriculum (EPIC) Fellows Program for the 2020-21 academic year. EPIC brings together community college faculty and academic staff to work collaboratively with colleagues at Stanford on projects aimed at internationalizing course curricula and producing



Help spread the word about the <u>Humanities Mellon Scholars program</u>. Students can earn a Certificate of Achievement in Humanities, complete university transfer requirements and take courses that fulfill the degree requirements of their major. Mellon scholars get a designated faculty advisor, paid internships and guaranteed admission to the University of San Francisco (USF), with up to \$20,000 in scholarships.

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The TechCore Summer Institute, hosted by the Science Learning Institute (SLI), is a free threeweek online program open to graduating high school seniors and equivalency earners exploring the field of computer science for the first time. TechCore runs August 10-28. <u>Deadline to register</u> is Monday, July 6.

Please let students know they can get free wifi access, charging stations, and food at Menlo Church in Mountain View (774 Cuesta Dr., Mountain View, CA. 94940) from 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. every Saturday through June 20.

Students can <u>sign up here and register for a desk</u>. Study spaces are outside and socially distanced. Every student will receive food to take home.

Students who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic can apply for emergency relief support from the college. Please encourage students to fill out this short <u>application</u>. All requests will be reviewed and we will contact students as soon as possible.



The Virtual Play Reading Festival has begun! <u>Make a reservation</u> and see a free reading before June 12. Donations accepted.

Music is a universal tool to express our outrage, our humanity, and our hope for the future. This song pretty much says it all...Released in January 1971 and, sadly, still as pertinent today as it was when it was first recorded.

