

Confirmations – March 11, 2024

Equity Action Council (EAC): 1 Faculty Representative Needed

Vernon Gallegos, FT, Tenured

As a Tenured Professor, I've promoted a learning environment that guarantees equal access to educational opportunities for all students including students with physical, learning, and psychological disabilities. I've attending several lectures and workshops centered on equity and diversity. I had the wonderful opportunity to attend The National Conference on Race and Ethnicity (NCORE) in New Orleans from May 28 through June 2. Several of Dr. Joy DeGruy's Lectures on such subjects as White America on Trial: Black Family Healing and Self-reparation. Inclusive Classroom Responding to incidents that affect the teaching & learning climate. Facilitating Difficult Race Discussions, Building Relationships in the Classroom, Creating A Positive Classroom Climate for Diversity, and Teaching and Learning Awareness of Socioeconomic Diversity Awareness of Implicit Bias Diversity Statements Inclusive Classroom Climate Inclusive Teaching Strategies Racial Awareness.

I've attended meetings conducted by Doctor Marion Y. Winters, director of De Anza College Diversity Office on academic, cultural, and social environment that provides equity and success for all members of the De Anza College campus community, including students, faculty, staff, and administrators as well as taking class on Diversity Leadership Training from Professor Nicky Gonzalez-Yuen founder of the Diversity Leadership Program.

Throughout my professional experience of working nationally and internationally, I've gained a understanding of diverse academic, socioeconomic, cultural, disability, and ethnic backgrounds of High School, Community College and University students.

Campus Committee – Meditation Room Improvement Project: 2-3 hour commitment

Kim Palmore

My identity epitomizes intersectionality: religiously devout, non-Christian, female, gender-queer, first generation college student from a poor family. My background and experiences uniquely qualify me for service on this committee. My identity as a non-Christian person who relies on campus meditation spaces provides first hand insight into the challenges faced by individuals from religious minorities seeking accommodation for their spiritual practices. Additionally, as a member of the LGBTQ+ community, I understand the importance of inclusive spaces and the need for representation within decision-making bodies. My intersectional identity equips me with empathy, understanding, and a commitment to advocating for the needs of marginalized communities, making me a strong candidate for this committee.

Diversity is integral not only to the effectiveness and integrity of the committee, but also to ensure broad equity practices for the campus community. Diversity fosters a culture of inclusion, equity, and collegiality, ensuring that all voices are heard and valued. My understanding of the needs of Muslims who engage in daily Salah and my personal experiences of seeking accommodation for prayer requirements will contribute to the committee's ability to address the diverse needs of campus communities. By recognizing and valuing diverse perspectives and experiences, we can create a more welcoming and supportive environment for all individuals, regardless of their backgrounds or identities.