

Dear CSUSB Community,

Our Black Community can't breathe. The Associated Students, Inc. is deeply saddened with the recent murder of George Floyd, that occurred in the City of Minneapolis, Minnesota. Our hearts, thoughts, and prayers are with Mr. Floyd's family, friends, loved ones and the United States of America. Today we also mourn and feel pain due to the deaths of Breonna Taylor, Tony McDade, Botham Jean, Michael Brown, and many others who have been victims of these violent acts.

Derek Chauvin, was not the first member of law enforcement to murder a member of the African American community. It must be made clear that this is not a one-time incident. It must be made clear that this is a cycle of unfortunate events that has caused deep pain and enormous amounts of trauma in our communities. Our communities are rightfully experiencing anger, frustration, and hopelessness. As a minority serving institution and as representatives of the student body, we are all affected by these issues and we must ensure that our students are represented in the battle for justice.

The Associated Students, Inc. has the mission to serve, empower and advocate on behalf of all students at California State University of San Bernardino. It is our responsibility to ensure that our students are heard at all levels. The Associated Students, Inc. will put good faith efforts to empowering the Black Student voice through but not limited to; collaborating with Black Clubs, supporting initiatives that increase enrollment of Black Students, bringing in guest speakers that can educate on Black issues and engaging with community leaders on these issues. We recognize the challenges that Black Students face occur on a daily basis and therefore commit to doing the aforementioned year-round; not solely during Black history month. There are numerous avenues for improvement at CSUSB and we call on campus administrators to join us in taking strides to create a plan of action for the Black Community through the consultation of BFSSA and the Black Student Body.

We acknowledge that there are many members of our campus community practicing their first amendment and their right to assemble. The Associated Students, Inc. stands with you and would like to ask for our students to stay safe during this time of crisis. We believe that there is an urgent need for policy reform that would ensure that people do not die at the hands of law enforcement. The Associated Students, Inc. calls for all campus administrators, faculty, staff, and students to stand up for what is just. As future leaders of this country, we must continue to get educated and continue to challenge systems of injustice. Given that 80% of our students are first-generation college students gives hope for the future knowing this generation will soon be the one in those leadership roles. We support peaceful protests and a demand change. We believe that what you are doing today, pursuing a higher education, will have a global impact and urge you to stay the course.

The Associated Students, Inc. stands in solidarity with our Black Community and the Black Lives Matter movement!

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The Associated Students, Inc. Cal State San Bernardino

"Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today." -Malcolm X