



June 4, 2020

We have a lot to say, but nothing is more important than the following:
#BlackLivesMatter.

The staff of Engineering Student Services raises our voices in solidarity with Black Lives. We will not be silent or compliant to racism, police brutality, or systemic oppression. We are heartbroken, devastated, and horrified by the recent murders of Tony McDade, George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Ahmaud Arbery. We also recognize that these acts of racism and hatred have been occurring long before these past few months as Black communities have had to endure far more than what we see on the news and social media.

We hold ourselves accountable by acknowledging our individual privilege, and by committing to disrupt systems of oppression and anti-racism at Cal Poly and in our respective communities.

To our Black students: we see you, we value you, and we stand with you.

The staff of Engineering Student Services is committed to:

- Taking trauma that Black students experience seriously.
- Providing a safe space for students to discuss these issues, sit with their emotions, and connect to resources. In every one of these interactions, we commit to listening and learning.
- Continuing to invest in our [Multicultural Engineering Program](#), which supports Cal Poly chapters of [NSBE](#) and [SHPE](#), and provides a space for students to feel comfortable, supported, and empowered.
- Learning, assessing, and adjusting our program and policies through a lens of social justice, equity, diversity and inclusion.
- Being advocates for change in recognizing institutional barriers at Cal Poly and speaking up. We acknowledge that silence and inaction contribute to the maintenance of ongoing institutional racism and other structural inequalities
- Engaging in continued development and conversations as a team around issues of racism, oppression, and privilege.

We want to urge all of us, and particularly those who come from a position of privilege and power, to join in these efforts of dismantling racism. We invite you to engage with the following resources in order to: recognize the historical legacy of anti-Black violence in the United States, examine how white supremacy has impacted your own life, and support or join activist organizations in the fight for racial justice.



Starting Out & Continuing Learning

- [Why Teaching Black Lives Matters](#)
- [A Decade of Watching Black People Die](#)
- [Interview with Dr. Bettina Love, author of “We want to do More than Survive”](#)
- <https://blacklivesmatteratschool.com/>
- [Affirming Black Lives Without Inducing Trauma \(Teaching Tolerance\)](#)
- [Anti-Racist Resources for White Folk](#)
- [Black Authors, Praxis, and Feminist Theory](#)
- [White Friends Desiring to be Allies](#)
- [Anti-Racist Reading List](#)
- [Cal Poly Center for Teaching, Learning and Technology resources](#)

Why Should I Care?

- [Why it's not all lives matter](#)
- [Violence Never Works? Really?](#)
- [7 Riots, Rallies, and Protests that Propelled Queer Liberation](#)

Self-Work

- [How to Be a Good Ally - Identity, Privilege, Resistance | Ahsante the Artist](#)
- [White Privilege Toolkit](#)

Building Community & Healing

- [Black Emotional and Mental Health Collective \(BEAM\)](#)
- [Cal Poly Counseling Center](#)
- [Cal Poly Cross Cultural Centers](#)
- [Cal Poly's Student Care resources](#)

Get involved

- [Bias Reporting](#)
- [Ombuds](#) This office at Cal Poly offers a safe place to go for assistance in resolving any university related issue, concern, conflict, or complaint. All communications with the office are strictly confidential, informal, impartial, and independent.
- [26 ways to be in the struggle beyond the streets](#)
- [NAACP SLO Chapter](#)
- [RACE Matters SLO](#)
- [Donate](#)



We remind you that this journey of learning and unlearning is critical; we all need to lean into the discomfort. While you navigate this process, please remember to not ask Black folx and people of color to educate you, speak for anyone but themselves, or justify their emotions or response to the events happening in our country.

Engineering Student Services staff is available to students virtually. For more information about meeting with us please see: <https://eadvise.calpoly.edu/virtual-advising>.

In solidarity,

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