

October 6, 2020

The faculty of the Bakersfield College Grace Van Dyke Bird Library stand in support of the “Racial Equity at Bakersfield College: A Renewed Commitment to Equitable Access & Completion” document outlined by Equal Opportunity and Diversity Advisory Committee, which outlines four commitments: Racial equity student success agenda, collective consciousness raising, faculty and staff diversification, and race conscious first responder training.

The library is a hub of student learning on campus. As such, we have a deep commitment to racial equity in student success. The library creates an equitable environment for all students to use computers, reserve textbooks, and library resources free of cost. This helps both to alleviate financial burdens on any students who use the library and to grant students a space to use technology they may not have access to at home.

In addition, the library’s Learning Together event series for 2020-2021 showcases its dedication to collective consciousness raising. This series allows us to curate resources on anti-racism and cultural competence and creates a space for BC faculty and staff to engage respectfully with each other while building racial and cultural competence.

We believe that the 4 commitments outlined in the Racial Equity document will help BC become the best version of itself.

Signed,

Kirk Russell, Library Chair

Faith Bradham, Reference Librarian

Sondra Keckley, Reference Librarian

Laura Luiz, Reference Librarian

Mindy Wilmot, Reference Librarian