

Opportunity to address the Senate
December 2, 2020

Edith Marta, LUPE

Hello Members of the Senate first and foremost, we hope all of you are doing well!

Today we stand before you in support of the racial equity commitments resolution. Our LUPE students and staff we are working towards a for a more inclusive curriculum as well as efforts to diversify hiring.

We are happy to know Bakersfield College forms part of the California Community College Equity Leadership Alliance, working with the USC Race and Equity Center to train college representatives on topics like hiring and retaining faculty of color, fostering inclusive classrooms and integrating race across the curriculum. Now more than ever we need our institutions to take action to commit to these specific steps to address the persistent inequities on campus. For instance, at BC is mostly white faculty teaching a mostly Latino/Hispanic population. Therefore, the curriculum tends to not be reflective the cultural history, identities and interests of this students.

Without a doubt, LUPE believes that adopting these Racial Equity commitments will create a more inclusive space for communities of color, as faculty will have access to online tools like case studies, readings on racial equity and to participation on campus surveys to assess how students, faculty and staff feel about their campus climate on inclusion and diversity.

Thank your academic senate for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Bakersfield College Latinos Unidos Por Education Student Organization

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LUPE Secretary: Margarita Ruiz

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