

# **EODAC Faculty Co-Chair Report to the Academic Senate**

February 14, 2024

The EODAC held its second meeting (& 5<sup>th</sup> for the 2023/2024 academic year) for the spring semester on 2/9/2024. The first was held on January 26.

**Attendees:** Martha Gonzalez, Sara Wallace, Elizabeth Diaz, Vanessa Reyes, Gilbert Ayuk, Angela Williams, Vikki Coffee, Richard McCrow, Debra Thorson, Maria Elizondo, Yvette Jackson, Helen Acosta, Amanda Anguiano, William Velasquez, Hearther Skibinski.

## **January 26 meeting**

### Rising Scholars Program

The Admin Co-chair, Dean McCrow announced that the CCC State Chancellor will be visiting our RSP and some area prisons on 3/1/2024 to learn more about the RSP.

### BC Campus Police Establishment

- I. Members discussed the suggestion to create a campus police department and listened to the Executive Director of campus safety, Mr Grubbs, who explained his proposal and took questions from members.
- II. Some members expressed concerns that that the permanent presence of armed police officers on our campus will leave some segments of our community feeling unsafe, creating a campus community that is neither equitable/inclusive, nor safe for ALL members, contrary to our college values.
- III. Members expressed a willingness to advocate for more funding for campus safety officers, but Mr. Grubbs declined noting that the presence of sworn officers is the solution.
- IV. Members agreed to continue the police department discussion during the next meeting.

## **February 9, 2024 Meeting**

### **1. EODAC Charge**

The review of the committee charge was completed and alignment with accreditation done. Charge will be put in the new format and submitted to the AS on or before its 2/28 meeting.

## **2. Committee Goals for 2023/2024**

Members discussed and voted to focus the committee's work for 2023/24 on the following 3 goals:

**Goal 1:** Increase student awareness of and access to all student services offered by Bakersfield College by establishing the “**Renegade Success**” Magazine. Recommending and promoting practices that enhance student success and equity is part of the charge of EODAC.

**Goal 2:** Enhance Professional Development and Institutional Equity through Strategic Engagement in Pathways to Equity Initiatives. Promoting professional development on DEIA and driving equity-focused changes at BC and KCCD is part of the EODAC charge.

**Goal 3:** Ensure Campus Safety &/Police Department Aligns to DEIA

- I. The committee continued the conversation around equitable campus safety and the proposal to form a campus police department. Members raised the following concerns:
  - i) that campus safety officers are classified staff and those classified staff positions may be reduced and/or eliminated if a campus police department is formed.
  - ii) that the permanent placement of sworn officers on campus will be a failure by BC & the district to recognize the emotional and mental violence that members of our Black and Brown community suffer when they have to deal with armed police.
- II. The committee voted to task EODAC to collaborate with the College Safety Department and other stakeholders to ensure that campus safety and/or the establishment and operation of a College Police Department embodies the principles of diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility.

Regards,

Gilbert Ayuk