

DRAFT #4 ALUMS

8.17.22

Please review

Welcome to the Solano College Minority Coalition

Who are we and what is our purpose?

The Solano College Minority Coalition has been in existence on campus since the early 1970s. We are now in the year 2022 and we are still here after 50+ years of service, involvement and commitment to the issues that initially concerned people of color. Over the years, we have expanded our work to include individuals, and organizations that focus on the disabled community, relationship preferences, self-identity, their supporters, and associates.

The Minority Coalition is open to all who are interested in supporting the educational growth, and expansion of its mission.

The prime purpose of the Minority Coalition is to provide a forum for discussion, participation, and learning and to take a representative course of action as needed or recommended by the team. It is our desire to improve the relationships and understanding of all of us who show-up and identify in different ways.

Solano Community College Minority Coalition would like to welcome all who are interested in participating in the organization by contributing their thoughts, ideas, and willingness to stand up and address issues regarding Equity (or lack of), Diversity and Inclusion as these issues relate to the success of our students, faculty, and administration.

Some may attribute our longevity to our commitment and steadfastness to purpose. We agree. However, the essence of our commitment is due to the lack of consistent, meaningful change and the growing resistance. We will remain focused on our purpose of this organization until there is clear, visible, and measurable change. We will continue to provide a forum for discussing and sharing common concerns of Solano College minority groups while we take a representative course of action while addressing some of those concerns. Some of our students, members of the administration and faculty continue to tell us they do not always feel welcome as a member of the student body, administration, or instructional teams due to their race, gender identification preferences, choices, disability, and or cultural distinctiveness.

Many believe that their success can be enhanced with greater inclusion and education. Recent student involvement in Hiring Committees is a clear indication that change can indeed occur and can be very effective. As a result of their involvement, several students expressed a feeling of inclusion and empowerment due to their involvement on the hiring teams. However, there is room for a lot more change. Your involvement matters!

"To disrupt historical systemic racism within our educational environment, and discrimination, we must purposely empower our students, staff, and faculty through collaboration, research, and educational development."
Edward Smith

.... Our core leadership team consists of Shannan Danley (President, Minority Coalition and Program Coordinator of SOAR), Russell Smith (Interim Vice President) Dr. Rhuenette Alums (Treasurer, Secretary), Dr. Michelle Arce (2nd. Vice President) and Dr. Shirley Lewis (Advisor) They are responsible for planning, organizing, and focusing energy within four prime areas of interest.

- Mentorship and guidance for students, administration and interested faculty
- Greater representation/participation on governance teams
- Community engagement
- Cultural sensitivity training and insight

If any of you are interested in joining us by participating in any of these areas of interest, please send me an email and express your interest. All are welcome. We are all impacted by what we know and oftentimes impacted more severely by what we do not know.

Please check this website often to see what is new by way of presentations, guest speakers, published information, community programs and other changes because of the work that we all do to create a more equitable, diverse, and inclusive environment.

Throughout this year, we are making plans for culturally rich, informative programs and meetings, featuring unique guest speakers, and access to relevant educational materials.

Our goal is to provide a sense of community and belonging for current, future and interested students, staff, faculty, administrators, and visitors to our Solano College campus. We welcome anyone who is interested in supporting and ***respecting*** the rights, culture, choices, history, and interests of people who represent various minority concerns.

If you are interested in participating and or joining the Minority Coalition, please respond to this email Shanan.Danley@solano.edu with the following -

Name:

Email address:

Cell #:

Professional position:

Area/s of interest: