



Foothill College Academic Senate  
Mental Health Resolution  
April 2021

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Whereas, the Black Lives Matter movement has reopened a psychological wound for black students and revealed unique challenges within mental health services;

Whereas, the experience of racism – both direct and indirect in the form of microaggressions or exposure to racism through course content – can have a devastating effect on the mental health of black students;

Whereas, predetermined consequences such as expulsions, suspensions, and referrals to law enforcement for specific offenses disproportionately affects black students and often can lead to depression, anxiety or addiction as a result of zero-tolerance discipline policies; **therefore be it**

**Resolved**, the Foothill College Academic Senate is committed to the psychological well-being of black students by recognizing that a trauma-informed practice recognizing signs, symptoms, and risks will better support the mental health needs of our black students.

**Resolved**, the Foothill College Academic Senate act upon creating conditions that strengthen anti-racism awareness by promoting on-going professional development for faculty in unconscious bias, racial trauma, and racial diversity.

**Resolved**, that the Foothill Academic Senate work with administration and student groups to develop a responsible student conduct and disciplinary framework centered on restorative justice principles based on Inclusive Decision-making, Active Accountability, Repairing Harm, and Rebuilding Trust.