

Dear CNM Community,

Today, CNM Equity Council is writing because of the riot at the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday. The insurrection at the Capitol was unfathomable for many, inconsistent with the ideals we hold as a democratic nation. At the same time, it is nearly impossible to overlook the images and comparisons which highlight a nation long divided by racial and socioeconomic class constructs. The stark difference between preparation and response to the US Capitol Riot and the Black Lives Matter protests vividly illustrates deep-rooted structural racism in this country.

The actions of these mobs have understandably triggered a range of feelings and emotions. We want you to know you are not alone. We encourage you to value and prioritize our humanity. This may mean checking in on each other and our wellbeing and practicing compassion regarding assigned tasks and homework. Please be aware of compounded traumas some of us bear as we return to our classrooms and workspace. Lastly, we urge you to go beyond intention when we communicate with each other. We must acknowledge our responsibility in impacting someone with our emotions, words, and actions regardless of our intentions. From invalidating others' experience to inappropriate comments, our goal should be to make a positive impact on others and not just having a good intention.

In this time of emboldened violence rooted in hate fueled by white supremacy, CNM Equity Council reaffirms its commitment to eradicating the causes of injustice and inequity by ensuring all students receive education and resources to succeed, all staff and faculty are supported in meeting the needs of our diverse community, and that we create an inclusive, safe, and equitable environment at CNM in which we can respectfully share and learn from diverse worldviews and experiences.

Let us know how we can help – we can be reached via email [equity\\_council@cnm.edu](mailto:equity_council@cnm.edu).

Sincerely,  
CNM Equity Council  
<https://www.cnm.edu/about/equity-council>

To learn more about racial equity, we encourage you to access our resources (<https://www.cnm.edu/about/equity-council/equity-council-resources>).

About CNM Equity Council: CNM Equity Council advocates for inclusion and justice that improves our lives. To play an active role towards equity at CNM, we identify, serve, advocate, and ensure racial equity strategies for the College while recognizing impacts of overlapping social identities such as gender, sexuality, and class. We are committed to advocating resources that ensure our institution leads the way in eradicating systemic racism.