

Resolution Denouncing Racism in support of students, faculty, staff, Black, Indigenous and People of Color,
and the Whatcom County community
Resolution No. 2020-03

WHEREAS, the Whatcom Community College Trustees represent the governing body of Whatcom Community College;

WHEREAS, Whatcom Community College commits to integrate principles of diversity, access, and inclusion throughout policy, practice, services, and curriculum to close equity gaps in student outcomes and create an equitable work environment (*Strategic Plan*);

WHEREAS, Whatcom Community College is committed to maintaining an environment in which every member of the College community feels welcome to participate in the life of the College, free from harassment and discrimination (*Affirmation of Inclusion*);

WHEREAS, as Trustees we are deeply disturbed by the persistent and pervasive structural racism that enables the violence against Black, Indigenous and other People of Color to continue unchecked, including violence against Blacks in America, anti-Asian discrimination related to the COVID-19 Pandemic, and disproportionate death rates among Black, Brown and Indigenous communities due to COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 Global Pandemic has greatly magnified the many economic, health, and racial inequities in our society, and invoked violence against Black, Indigenous, and People of Color;

WHEREAS, People of Color make up 35% of Whatcom Community College's student body population;

WHEREAS, students, staff, and faculty of color in our community are traumatized by the relentless violence against members of their community, and are under constant threat of racist actions and incidents of xenophobia and racially motivated hate crimes;

WHEREAS, as Trustees we are concerned for our students, staff, faculty, colleagues and their families who are at risk of being targeted in this environment in our community and in their daily lives;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Whatcom Community College Board of Trustees denounces racism in any forms; stands against structural racism; joins colleges across the country in affirming its commitment to the safety and well-being of people of color; and in combating acts of aggression and hate crimes targeting these communities. We commit our campus to working collectively with allies to combat and disrupt the hate and violence against people of color in our community.

Done in Open Meeting by the Board this 10th day of June, 2020.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Whatcom Community College

By: 
Chairperson of the Board