

## **Ethnic Studies Council of CSUCI**

### **Background Information:**

The Ethnic Studies Council (ESC) was founded by Ethnic Studies faculty and other faculty who shared concerns and advocacy for the development and growth of ES on our campus. With the passage of AB1460, the Senate created an ad-hoc Ethnic Studies Task Force to make sure our campus was in compliance with the law. Members of the ESC served on this committee. The ESC became critical to our campus as we became the body that has continued to do the work to create and submit new curriculum/courses and remain active in the CSU-wide efforts to build ES. We are the body that is navigating budgetary and other relevant issues for our campus. Yet, the ESC is not a formally recognized body on this campus. The ESC worked Fall 2022 to research other CSU campuses and attempt to figure out what an ESC could look like as the leadership for our own campus.

We have explored the various possibilities and have determined the following: At this point our campus lags behind all other CSUs in the sense that we are just beginning the development of full fledged ES programs/departments. Ultimately, it is our belief that all curricular and budgetary decisions for ES should be determined by ES faculty who are Standing Members and Associate Members Ethnic Studies Council and then shift to Standing Members once all programs are established. When 4-5 Ethnic Studies programs (Chicana/o Studies, Black Studies, Asian American Studies, Native American Indigenous Studies, and potentially Comparative Ethnic Studies) are fully formed on our campus with TT faculty and department chairs, it is the intent of the current ESC that at that point, the official ESC will be comprised of the chairs and faculty of all 4-5 departments. Since we are not at that point, there is a need to make decisions and do the labor it takes to establish ES programs on our campus, the current composition of the ESC is outlined in this document. In order to function within the current structures of our university, we must be formally recognized as the official body and leadership of ES on our campus. We seek recognition from our senate as an Adhoc ESC, tasked with the duties outlined below and to serve as the formal body that assesses and determines all Ethnic Studies related issues. The adhoc ESC would only be dissolved and transitioned when there are four fully established ES programs/departments.

### **Article I: Name**

The name of this organization shall be The Ethnic Studies Council of California State University Channel Islands.

### **Article II: Purpose**

The purpose of The Ethnic Studies Council of California State University Channel Islands is to:

a) Collaborate in the creation and growth of Ethnic Studies programs at Channel Islands (Black Studies, Native American Indigenous Studies, Asian American Studies, Chicana/o Studies, Comparative Ethnic Studies),

b) administer the recurring CO funds explicitly designated for Ethnic Studies programs,

c) manage curricular development for programs.

d) serving as members of RTP committees for faculty in Ethnic Studies Programs

e) participating in the CSU-wide Ethnic Studies Council

f) recruitment efforts and community relationship-building in the region

g) advocacy and communication with the administration as we hire future faculty and work together to create/establish new programs

e) review proposals for Ethnic Studies GE courses

F. secure funding for professional development for faculty and staff

### Article III: By-Laws

#### A. Kinds of Membership

There shall be three (3) kinds of membership on the Council: standing members, associate members, and honorary members. All of these members constitute the Assembly of Ethnic Studies Council. The Assembly shall be the governing body of the Council and constitute and conduct itself based on the foundational principles of *self-determination* and *equal representation* of the four core ethnic studies groups: Native American Indigenous Studies; Black Studies; Asian American Studies and Chicana/o Studies.

Currently, because Ethnic Studies programs are being established, membership eligibility for Ethnic Studies Council is made available to faculty affiliated with current Ethnic Studies programs (Chicana/o Studies and Black Studies). However, once all Ethnic Studies programs have been established, membership in Ethnic Studies Council will be limited to any person who holds a faculty position within one of the Ethnic Studies programs.

1. Standing Members: Any person who holds a faculty position in an Ethnic Studies program or is officially affiliated with an Ethnic Studies program. Members are eligible to run for office and vote.
2. Associate Members  
Any person who was a former member and is no longer an active member shall be eligible for associate membership in the Council. Any person who has a professional or intellectual interest in or is supportive of the issues, students, faculty, communities, and disciplines of Ethnic Studies shall be eligible for associate membership in the Council. Associate members shall not be eligible for holding office or voting. [Once all Ethnic Studies programs are established, decisions over continuing Associate Membership will be the purview of Ethnic Studies Faculty from each of the programs].
3. Honorary Members  
Any person designated as such by the Representative Assembly for outstanding achievement or service in the advancement of the disciplines and communities of Ethnic Studies. Honorary members are not eligible to vote or hold office.

## B. Leadership

The Ethnic Studies Council will elect two co-chairs annually to lead the council, who will conduct day-to-day business and facilitate meetings and council duties. They will be responsible for communicating with the administration and leading the work of the council.

## C. Duties of Co-Chairs

The Co-Chairs shall:

1. establish the policies, priorities, and goals of the council
2. adopt the agenda and rules governing its meetings
3. Review and approve curriculum and course proposals
4. enact measures as may be necessary to carry out policies and achieve the goals and objectives of the Council within the framework of the Constitution and By-Laws
5. approve expenses from OC Ethnic Studies Funds

