

The Department of Linguistics/TESL stands in solidarity with people and organizations calling for an end to systemic, anti-Black racism. We condemn the unjust killings of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Rayshard Brooks, and many other Black lives at the hands of police officers. Police violence disproportionately affects Black communities and we support those who are protesting and demanding systemic changes be made to policing in the U.S. to ensure safety, freedom, and justice for Black lives. We join people around the world in affirming without qualification that **all** Black lives matter!

We recognize that a statement of solidarity is only a starting point. We must take meaningful action. In order to begin to dismantle institutionalized anti-Blackness and other forms of systemic racism, we must look inward and critically examine how our own discipline and practices have participated in and reinforced these unjust systems. We agree with the Linguistic Society of America (LSA) in their [Statement on Race](#) that there is “no linguistic justice without racial justice.” We are inspired by suggestions the LSA gives us in their blueprint for racial inclusion and will consider them carefully, as well as suggestions made by the [California Faculty Association](#), as we develop our own plan of action as a department.

To the students, faculty, and staff at CSUN, we promise to do our part as a department to promote equity, inclusion, and justice. Know that we are committed to completing an anti-racism action plan as a department in a timely manner and promise to share it with our students and the broader CSUN community as soon as possible.

—In Solidarity,
The Department of Linguistics/TESL