

## **Tkach, Colleen**

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**From:** Inform  
**Subject:** EM: Student Petition on Racial Ethnic GE

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**From:** Livesay, Daniel

Dear CMC Students:

We hope you will consider signing our student-faculty petition below that calls on the Board of Trustees to meet with a delegation of Racial-Ethnic GE student and faculty leaders on April 20, or another time this semester, to discuss the faculty-approved Racial-Ethnic Cultural Understanding GE Proposal and HEDS survey results, and to reverse its course of action by voting to approve this RE GE Proposal.

On April 14, 2022, the CMC faculty made the historic decision to vote to approve the Racial-Ethnic Cultural Understanding GE Proposal. The Board of Trustees voted it down in September 2022, in part because they felt the students would not support a new Racial-Ethnic GE requirement. However, the newly-released HEDS campus climate survey found that a majority of faculty and staff, and the overwhelming majority of the CMC student body (70%), support a new Racial-Ethnic GE. The Board of Trustees were unaware of the HEDS survey results at the time of their decision and we would now like to petition the Trustees to meet with a delegation of RE GE faculty and student leaders for a face-to-face meeting on April 20, or another date this semester, to reverse their decision and vote to approve the faculty-approved Racial-Ethnic Cultural Understanding GE Proposal. We believe in an open academy and responsible leadership and are exercising both now in our call on the Board of Trustees to meet with CMC students and faculty during their visit to CMC. After just days of tabling, over 400 students, faculty and staff have signed the petition. We hope you'll join our efforts and sign below.

The online petition will allow you to remain anonymous, though your signature is needed for internal verification. If you could, please sign by Friday, April 14 at 12:00 noon.

This Racial-Ethnic GE would help enable students to become critical thinkers and responsible leaders who are able to understand diverse racial-ethnic communities and engage the complex racial issues that divide our world. Furthermore, it would build a more culturally-aware student body, which will create a safer and more inclusive community where all students can live, grow, and flourish.

Student-Faculty Petition:

*We, the below signed petitioners, call on the Board of Trustees to meet with a coalition of faculty and students to discuss the Racial-Ethnic Cultural Understanding GE Proposal during their campus visit on Thursday, April 20, or at another date this semester. In light of the faculty vote to approve the GE proposal on April 14, 2022, and the newly-released campus climate HEDS survey – which found that a majority of faculty and staff, and 70 percent of CMC students, support a new Racial-Ethnic GE – we ask that the Board reverse their decision in September and vote to approve the proposal. A new general education requirement on racial-ethnic cultural understanding will not only support the Presidential initiatives on Anti-Racism and the Black Experience in America and the Open Academy, but will also prepare responsible student leaders.*

Link to the Online Petition & Signature: <http://tinyurl.com/regepetition>

Sincerely,

Professors Gastón Espinosa and Dan Livesay