

Tkach, Colleen

From: Inform
Subject: EM: Racial-Ethnic Cultural Understanding GE Petition

From: Livesay, Daniel

Dear CMC Students:

A historic petition drive is underway which is calling on the Board of Trustees to meet with the Student-Faculty Racial-Ethnic GE Proposal Coalition this Spring 2023.

We are calling on the Trustees not only to meet with this Student-Faculty Coalition, but to also reverse its September 2022 decision by voting to approve the Racial-Ethnic Cultural Understanding GE Proposal, which was approved by our faculty on April 14, 2022.

Although President Chodosh received the HEDS results in August 2023, we have been informed that the Board of Trustees were not given these results before they voted on the Racial-Ethnic GE Proposal in September 2022. This is an important oversight because the HEDS survey found that a majority of faculty and staff and 70% of students surveyed agreed that the GE curriculum “could be improved with a deeper study of historically marginalized racial and/or ethnic identities.” We believe that if the Trustees had this information that they might have voted in favor of it.

So far... 796 CMCers have signed the petition – including 718 students. Another 165 students have signed from the 7Cs, bringing the total to 961 signatories in just two weeks.

We invite you to take a minute to sign the petition here:

<http://tinyurl.com/regepetition>

Please note that you can sign the petition and then request that your name be kept anonymous except for internal verification purposes. This approach will protect your identity.

We hope you will stand in solidarity with our students, faculty, and staff and help us call on the Board of Trustees to meet in productive dialogue.

Throughout this process, please know that your student peers working on this petition drive have role-modeled the CMC principles of anti-racism, the open academy, hard work, determination, civic virtue, and responsible leadership.

Sincerely,

Racial-Ethnic GE Student-Faculty Coalition