



Department of Geography

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NMSU Department of Geography Solidarity Statement

June 17, 2020

The Department of Geography at NMSU stands with the American Association of Geographers and other groups within our discipline and at NMSU, as well as with protestors and activists, in the condemnation of racism, police brutality, and institutional violence. We are disturbed, outraged, and deeply saddened by the recent murder of George Floyd. Mr. Floyd's death, and those of Rayshard Brooks, Breonna Taylor, and numerous other Black Americans, demonstrates an unacceptable and ongoing pattern of racism and institutional violence in the US.

Black and brown lives matter!

As geographers, we acknowledge that racism and injustice are spatialized, and that racial and social injustice are grounded in the geographies of place, and are deeply intertwined with environmental injustice. We also acknowledge that there is more that we can do ourselves as educators and researchers.

We, the Department of Geography faculty, commit to:

- incorporate a diversity, inclusion, equity, and anti-racism statement into our departmental Mission statement;
- actively work to educate ourselves on, and practice anti-racist pedagogy, specifically including our commitment to diversity and racial justice in our course syllabi; and
- establish a graduate student scholarship for students whose applied geography research explores social, racial, and/or environmental justice.

We strongly condemn the systematic pattern of racism, violence, and injustice that is reflected by these deaths. We speak out to emphasize and promote human rights, social justice, diversity, and inclusion, and advocate for historically marginalized social groups as central to our vision and mission.

In Solidarity;

The NMSU Department of Geography