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October 10, 2022

To whom it may concern

Ref: Dr. John Jones Reappointment

I would like to confirm that Dr. John Jones’ is one of the Social Justice Committee members of Childhood/Early Childhood Department. I am currently the chair of the committee and Dr. Jones joined us in the Fall of 2022. He has actively participated in the committee meetings and has expressed his ideas of creating new initiatives to promote the CECE Department mission and core values of anti-racist policies and practices in the curriculum and teaching.

During our committee meetings, we discussed the duties of the Social Justice Committee in the CECE Department that included (1) suggesting new ideas to faculty and curriculum committees to enhance course content that reflects the mission of social justice, equity, and inclusion; (2) planning and implementing of at least one annual social justice event; (3) supporting a continuing student and faculty development agenda aligned to social justice, equity and inclusion practices within different disciplines; and (d) collecting data to determine teacher candidates’ experiences and attitudes as relates to equitable and inclusive learning environments.

As a new member of the committee, Dr. Jones shared his commitment to support the committee to 1) build a collection of social justice pedagogical tools and aids for department faculty to use in their teaching, 2) find ways to collaborate with student-led cultural organization on campus, and 3) plan social justice-themed events. Dr. Jones offered to take leadership role in the introduction of tools that could help faculty improve the social justice dimensions of their teaching. He expressed his wish to research and bring to the committee a plan that will help in the implementation of this initiative. The committee is looking forward to Dr. Jones’ contribution in supporting anti-racist policies and practices in the teacher education curriculum and teaching.

Yours faithfully,

Dr. Margaret Gichuru

Assistant Professor

CECE Department

SUNY Cortland

Chair, Social Justice Committee