

Raquel Jacob-Almeida – Sociology

I have been teaching Sociology at Cuyamaca College for eight years now, and I am currently finishing my fourth year as Chair of the Social and Behavioral Sciences Department. During my eight years at Cuyamaca College, I have been committed to contributing to and further developing a high quality and equitable environment for students and faculty. My commitment to my students led to me being awarded the Cuyamaca College Award for Teaching Excellence in 2019 and the Associated Student Government of Cuyamaca College Faculty of the Year Award in 2018. I also spearheaded the Annual Social Justice Conference at Cuyamaca College, which was established in Spring 2019 in order to highlight current issues of social in/justice, showcase the work of local activists and students, and connect students to local organizations actively engaged in social justice efforts. The conference has occurred every year since, and has grown in size and focus, largely because Umoja faculty have also become a part of planning and running it. The conference is now a multi-day event that focuses on issues of social justice and Black consciousness, and is now called The Social Justice and Black Consciousness Conference. I am also currently a member of the Teaching and Learning Committed (previously called the Professional Development Committee), and have served as the Academic Senate's Full-Time Faculty Officer-at-large for Instruction for the 2020-21 and 2021-22 Academic Years. I was also recently part of the workgroup that created an Ethnic Studies degree at Cuyamaca College. In the recent past I have also served on the Student Success and Equity Council, the President's Task Force on Racial Equity and Social Justice, and the Culture and Community events workgroup. I also served as an officer for the AFT, Local 1931 for two years until 2019. I have been able to do this while also finishing my doctoral dissertation in sociology, which I successfully defended in fall of 2019, and raising my young son. I am proud of Cuyamaca College's commitment to equity, racial justice, and student success and I am grateful to be a part of that commitment. I am honored to continue being a part of this commitment by running for a third term as the Full-time Faculty Officer-at-large on the Academic Senate.