Statement Regarding Derek Chauvin Verdict

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The guilty verdict in the trial of Derek Chauvin for the murder of George Floyd is a sobering step toward healing in Minneapolis and racial justice in our country.

This is a renewed call to action for higher education to be the standard bearer of a society that is equitable, empathetic, and inclusive. Independent colleges and universities serve a diverse student body; this is our strength and our charge. This is the time to look internally at how we are serving students—particularly Black, Latino, and Native Americans—and determine what we can do to better meet their educational, mental, and emotional needs.

One jury decision will not root out racism and xenophobia. But this moment can be the beginning of those efforts. California Independent Colleges and Universities will do our part to build an inclusive America.

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About AICCU
The Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities (AICCU) is comprised of over 80 independent, nonprofit colleges and universities, which make up the Independent California Colleges and Universities (ICCU) sector. The ICCU sector plays a pivotal role in developing the state’s model of higher education offerings and making California a symbol of innovation across the globe. Within California, ICCU institutions award over 20 percent of all undergraduate degrees and over 50 percent of graduate degrees, making them the largest preparers of California’s advanced workforce.