

Form Name: PRIE - Campus Issues Form (SCC Inside)
Submission Time: November 3, 2024 9:33 pm
Browser: Chrome 129.0.0.0 / OS X
IP Address: 67.166.129.16
Unique ID: 1282689868
Location: 38.4272, -121.442

Committee or Individual Muslim Student Association

Email msasaccity@gmail.com

Issue/Concern Prayer room

Describe the issue/concern:

Dear Senate

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to express a pressing need within our student community, particularly given that a majority of the 20,000 students on campus identify as Muslim. Many of these students rely on specific times throughout the day to pray, making it crucial to establish a dedicated prayer room, along with accessible restroom facilities that accommodate both men and women. Currently, we do have a prayer room on campus, but it can barely fit two students at a time, which is insufficient for our growing community. A dedicated prayer room would serve as a vital sanctuary for students seeking a quiet and respectful space to fulfill their religious obligations. This room would ideally feature clean prayer mats and a designated area for ablutions, allowing students to prepare themselves in accordance with their faith.

Comfort and privacy in this room are essential. Having storage options for personal belongings would alleviate concerns while students pray, creating a sense of security and ease. Additionally, a small seating area would provide a space for students to reflect, read religious texts, or simply take a moment for themselves before or after their prayers. Thoughtful decor that reflects our diverse campus community would enhance the atmosphere, making the space feel welcoming and inclusive.

Providing this facility is not just about meeting the practical needs of our Muslim students; it is also a reflection of our college's commitment to inclusivity and respect for all faiths. Many neighboring colleges and universities have successfully implemented similar spaces, recognizing the importance of accommodating diverse student needs. The Muslim Student Association (MSA) would be more than willing to facilitate a tour of the prayer facilities at Sacramento State, showcasing how such spaces positively impact student well-being and community cohesion.

Moreover, it is important to extend this provision beyond the main campus to include the Sacramento City West Campus and other locations, such as the Davis campus. Ensuring that all students have access to a prayer room is essential for fostering an inclusive and supportive educational environment.

What do you recommend or suggest solving this issue/concern?

A dedicated prayer room would serve as a vital sanctuary for students seeking a quiet and respectful space to fulfill their religious obligations. This room would ideally feature clean prayer mats and a designated area for ablutions, allowing students to prepare themselves in accordance with their faith.

Comfort and privacy in this room are essential. Having storage options for personal belongings would alleviate concerns while students pray, creating a sense of security and ease. Additionally, a small seating area would provide a space for students to reflect, read religious texts, or simply take a moment for themselves before or after their prayers. Thoughtful decor that reflects our diverse campus community would enhance the atmosphere, making the space feel welcoming and inclusive.

Moreover, it is important to extend this provision beyond the main campus to include the Sacramento City West Campus and other locations, such as the Davis campus. Ensuring that all students have access to a prayer room is essential for fostering an inclusive and supportive educational environment.

How will this recommendation support the success of SCC students and benefit the campus community?

Providing this facility is not just about meeting the practical needs of our Muslim students; it is also a reflection of our college's commitment to inclusivity and respect for all faiths. Many neighboring colleges and universities have successfully implemented similar spaces, recognizing the importance of accommodating diverse student needs. The Muslim Student Association (MSA) would be more than willing to facilitate a tour of the prayer facilities at Sacramento State, showcasing how such spaces positively impact student well-being and community cohesion.
