



September 6, 2021

Dear Black Studies Program Chairs:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) Legacy Project, I cordially invite you to register for the SNCC multi-generational 60th Anniversary Virtual Conference, **“Organizing Our Strength for Tomorrow,”** which takes place October 14-16, 2021. I also encourage you to register your faculty and students.

During the three-day virtual Conference, activists and organizers with the Black Lives Matter network and many other movements and organizations will discuss with SNCC veterans potential strategies and tactics to move forward to find solutions for the myriad of problems facing Black, Brown, Native American and poor communities. Finding solutions to problems including wealth inequality, mass incarceration, police brutality, health disparities, massive voter suppression, and attacks on the teaching of African American history itself will be the focus of the Conference.

We in SNCC were about the age of many of your students when we lived in Black communities across the South working with local leaders to build strong grassroots organizations. SNCC was often praised as well as maligned for our youthful leadership and bold strategies and actions.

We are hosting this Conference for many audiences, but especially for young people who are activists for social change as well as those who are studying our movements for freedom, justice and equality as your students are.

The SNCC Legacy Project wants to be in conversation with your faculty and your students about the history of our struggle, where we are now, and—most important—about how we go forward from here. It is our hope to encourage your students to play major roles in mapping the path forward.

We hope that you can arrange for the Conference to be aired on your campus. It can also be added to your syllabi.

We are hosting sessions that encourage today's activists and scholars to begin a serious effort to document our ongoing Movement, symbolized by the Movement for Black Lives, the Dream Defenders, BYP 100 and others. The SNCC Legacy Project (www.sncclegacyproject.org) has spent years making the history of SNCC easily accessible through the SNCC Digital Gateway (www.snccdigital.org.) We look forward to hearing from you about your use of these materials and of your program/departments involvement with the documentation and archiving of the current Movement.

Please visit www.sncc60thanniversary.org to see how you can register your students and faculty for the SNCC 60th Anniversary Virtual Conference. We hope you will join us.

Yours in the struggle,

Courtland Cox

Courtland Cox, Chair
SNCC Legacy Project