

## In Memoriam: Dr. Doris Yates, Professor Emerita in Department of Hospitality, Recreation and Tourism, December, 2022

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of Dr. Doris Yates, Professor Emerita in the Department of Hospitality, Recreation and Tourism. Dr. Yates received her PhD from Michigan State University in 1982. She joined the Department of Hospitality, Recreation and Tourism (then Department of Recreation) as an Assistant Professor in 1983, where she taught multiple courses in the bachelor's degree program. After nearly 40 years at Cal State University, East Bay, she entered the Faculty Early Retirement Program in Fall 2022, just one semester prior to transitioning.

Dr. Yates, a native of Washington, DC, was able to witness firsthand the Civil Rights Movement, the end of Jim Crow, and the re-emergence of African American identity and culture. She took these experiences to Michigan State University, where she ultimately completed her doctorate, leading to her appointment at Cal State Hayward (now Cal State University, East Bay). Seeing the deep needs of underserved communities, especially African American communities, Dr. Yates dedicated her career to community upliftment through recreation and leisure activities. Through her published scholarship, she espoused the value of recreation and leisure to reduce stress and improve the human condition for marginalized groups.

At Cal State East Bay, Dr. Yates served on numerous university-wide committees, giving her a deep expertise on the inner-workings of the university. One important university contribution was her support to the development of *the African American Student Success Initiative and Kaleidoscope*, a program designed to increase the graduation rate for African American students at Cal State East Bay. She also was honored for three years to serve as Cal State University East Bay's Faculty Marshal. Recently, the dean of the College of Education and Allied Studies appointed her to be one of two Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion coordinators.

Within the Department of Hospitality, Recreation, and Tourism, Dr. Yates taught several different courses, but recently focused on *Wellness through Leisure*, and *Women in Leisure*. Among her students, she was known to be consistent in the classroom, and as a professor was clear about her expectations. Yet, she cared deeply about her students and wished for them to experience excellence as a result of their experiences with her.

Dr. Yates was proud of her community activities which included the chair of *Leadership Hayward* through the Hayward Chamber of Commerce, serving as a Personnel Commissioner for the City of Hayward, and serving as a board member of Tiburcio Vasquez Health Center. Dr. Yates was a Gang Prevention and Intervention Specialist with the National Gang Crime Research Center. She was certified as a Mental Health First Aid responder, a Gang Resistance Education and Training specialist, and had specialized training in Female Gangs/Female Gang Member management and supervision. In 2016, she received the Spirit Award for significant service in Public Education.

Dr. Yates was recognized her Alma Mater, Michigan State University, by serving as a Visiting Scholar in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. She also was awarded a prestigious Fulbright Teacher Exchange, where she was visited the Waltham Forest College in London, England. Indeed, she presented her research at international conferences and enjoyed traveling, but made Hayward her home.

Dr. Yates cared for and is loved by her nieces; she was like a mother to them. She will be greatly missed. At present, there are no immediate plans for a service or memorial.