

Subject: I have a dream....

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From: Bernadine Fong

To: foothill

CC: centralservices

I have a dream...

In 2004-05 (when I was president previously), Foothill was enjoying its leadership in online classes and we wanted to continue our leadership in educational technology, being in the heart of the Silicon Valley. That year I attended several conferences and was introduced to holograms, which was using light source technology to depict a 3-D image in the very space I was in, think of beaming people in in *Star Trek* movies. My thought was that it would be so compelling if students in a U.S. History class could actually see Martin Luther King, in 3-D, in their classroom, giving the “I Have A Dream” speech. We had a few companies come to campus to give us hologram demonstrations, and clearly, what we envisioned, could happen. However, none of these companies survived financially because the technology was too new. However, now in 2022-23, we have entered the metaverse with our groundbreaking work in VR or AI, and we do have the capacity to bring MLK, or anyone else, “live” into our classrooms. In fact, our Metaverse Institute group, still growing in numbers, has been meeting with a company, called Holoworld, so we/I have now come full circle.

However, short of actually participating in a hologram of Martin Luther King, I encourage you to recount the “*I Have A Dream*” speech, and reflect upon his words, such as: “*I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character. I have a dream today,*” (1963). Now, 60 years later, what progress have we made? And how much of that progress rests with us as educators of the current and next generation?

Enjoy your three day weekend. Reflect.

And also root for the 49ers!

Best regards,

Bernadine

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