



A Resolution Establishing the Black Student Union and Mesa Cooperativa as Funding Councils within the ASI Executive Senate

WHEREAS, The Associated Students, Incorporated (ASI) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that operates as an auxiliary organization of California State University, Fullerton; and

WHEREAS, ASI is governed by ASI Board of Directors, who set policy for the organization, approve all funding allocations to programs and services, and advocate on behalf of student interests on committees and boards; and

WHEREAS, the ASI Executive Senate is composed of the leadership of all student-run councils and programs funded by ASI, who through the financial support of ASI are able to provide opportunities for students to network, host events, and travel to conferences¹; and

WHEREAS, ASI provides financial support to the funding councils of the ASI Executive Senate, which is a classification of student organizations comprised of the eight academic inter-club councils (ICCs) and two special interest council groups (Sports and Community Service); and

WHEREAS, ASI also provides financial support to the funded councils of the ASI Executive Senate, which is a classification of student organizations comprised of primarily Fraternity & Sorority Life councils (Interfraternity Council, Multicultural Greek Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council, Panhellenic Council), as well as the Black Student Union, Mesa Cooperativa, and the Resident Student Association (RSA); and

WHEREAS, funding councils are authorized by ASI to provide direct funding to student organizations within the council's membership, while funded councils are only allowed to use ASI funding to provide council-wide programming; and

WHEREAS, the Black Student Union was formed in 1973 as a student organization and over the years developed into an ASI funded council. The council aims to amplify the voices and experiences of Black/African American students, as well as serve as the connection between Black/African American student organizations on campus. Through programming and workshops, the council works to develop students as leaders within their community while promoting and maintaining black culture, lifestyle, and history²;

¹ <http://www.asi.fullerton.edu/government/executiveSenate.asp>, retrieved April 1, 2016

² Interview with Black Student Union Administrative Chair, retrieved April 1, 2016

WHEREAS, Mesa Cooperativa was an initiative led by students, faculty, and administration to alleviate animosity between Chicano/Latino organizations on campus. Formed in 1992, the council strives to bring unity among Chicano/Latino organizations and foster a sense of community and voice. The council works collectively in developing cultural, educational, and social programs to continue to preserve and promote the Chicano/Latino roots of its members³; and

WHEREAS, the activities and presence of the Black Student Union and Mesa Cooperativa councils have grown significantly in recent years, yet because of their status as funded councils, they have been unable to directly support and retain their student organization membership⁴; and

WHEREAS, there are student organizations that choose not to join the Black Student Union and Mesa Cooperativa councils due to a lack of direct financial support and often seek funding from multiple ASI sources, including but not limited to academic funding councils and the Association for InterCultural Awareness (AICA)⁵; and

WHEREAS, if the Black Student Union and Mesa Cooperativa councils were granted funding status within the ASI Executive Senate, they would be able to continue to grow as councils and more successfully serve their missions in providing support for Black/African American and Chicano/Latino students organizations on campus; therefore let it be

RESOLVED, that with the adoption of this resolution, the ASI Board of Directors shall establish the Black Student Union and Mesa Cooperativa as funding councils within the ASI Executive Senate; and let it be

RESOLVED, that at a subsequent ASI Board of Directors meeting, the ASI Board of Directors shall create funding budgets for fiscal year 2016-2017 for both the Black Student Union and Mesa Cooperativa councils, as well as allocate funds to these accounts to be used for their student organization membership; and let it be

RESOLVED, that the Black Student Union and Mesa Cooperativa councils shall meet with ASI Leader & Program Development and the Office of Student Life and Leadership to assess their governing documents and draft rules and guidelines that will be in line with ASI funding council policies and procedures; and let it be

RESOLVED, that as a condition of their new funding council status, the Black Student Union and Mesa Cooperativa councils shall each send an executive board member of their council to attend the regular meetings of the Association for InterCultural Awareness (AICA) in order to represent their member organizations and engage in the larger conversations of diversity and

³ Interview with Mesa Cooperativa Administrative Chair, retrieved April 1, 2016

⁴ Interview with Black Student Union and Mesa Cooperativa Administrative Chairs, retrieved April 1, 2016

⁵ Interview with ASI Leader & Program Development, retrieved April 11, 2016

inclusion within the ASI. The newly-established funding councils may not receive additional funds from AICA and shall only serve in liaison roles; and let it be

RESOLVED, that the changes will be implemented for the 2016-2017 fiscal year; and let it be finally

RESOLVED, that this resolution be distributed to the following campus departments, divisions, and/or entities for their support and consideration: Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs, Office of the Dean of Students, Office of Student Life and Leadership, Student Leaders of the ASI Executive Senate, ASI Leader & Program Development, and ASI Financial Services.

Adopted by the Board of Directors of the Associated Students, California State University, Fullerton, Inc., on the twenty first day of April two thousand and sixteen.



Joseph Valencia
Chair, Board of Directors



Michael Badal
President/CEO



Gabriel Sedeño II
Vice Chair, Board of Directors