

A Resolution in Support of International Students Sponsor: Maria Linares

Co-Sponsors: Lauren Loeb, Seleena Mukbel, Selene Hanna, Janica Torres, Marcus Reveles, Skylar Soria

WHEREAS, California State University, Fullerton (CSUF) is a part of the California State University (CSU) system which serves over 487,000 students in the State of California, including the 16,222 international students¹; and

WHEREAS, the mission of Associated Students Inc., CSUF is to provide students and the campus community with important social, cultural, and recreational opportunities as well as a wide range of programs and services; and

WHEREAS, International Students and their right to an equitable education through California State University is equally as important as all other CSU students; and

WHEREAS, CSU Chancellor Timothy P. White announced that all twenty-three CSU campuses will be offering courses in the Fall 2020 semester primarily in a virtual instructional format¹; and

WHEREAS, the US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agency released modifications on July 6, 2020 to the Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) exemptions for nonimmigrant students taking online classes for the Fall 2020 semester, and plans to publish the procedures and responsibilities in the Federal Register as a Temporary Final Rule²; and

WHEREAS, these modifications state that nonimmigrant F-1 and M-1 students attending schools operating entirely online will not be allowed to solely take an online course load and remain in the United States, as the US Department of State will not issue visas to students enrolled in these fully online schools²; and

WHEREAS, the admission application deadline for other universities has passed and CSU International students would not have an opportunity to transfer to other universities in compliance with ICE directives; and

WHEREAS, forcing students to travel internationally is placing them at risk of exposure to COVID-19 and, according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), "Some healthcare systems are overwhelmed and there may be limited access to adequate medical care in affected

¹ CSU announcement on Fall 2020 virtuality

²DHS / ICE policy modification

areas. If you choose to travel internationally, your travel plans may be disrupted, and you may have to remain outside the United States for an indefinite length of time"³; and

WHEREAS, according to the Pew Research Center, "Most countries in the world have imposed partial or complete border closures to foreign nationals due to Coronavirus outbreak" meaning current traveling restrictions would cause undue harm and difficulty to students, or make it impossible for them to travel; and

WHEREAS, the stress of the journey during this current pandemic would cause undue stress and damage to students' mental and physical health as well as conflict financial burdens; and

WHEREAS, If students are forced to return to their country of origin, many may not have access to the internet or other specific resources needed for online courses, and will experience disruption due to time zone differences, which can gravely impact their academic progress; and

WHEREAS, Graduation Initiative 2025 aims to increase the graduation rate of CSU students, this ruling would greatly detract from these efforts; and

WHEREAS, International students pay fees for on campus services such as Materials, Services and Facilities Fee, Health Services Fee & Health Facilities Fee, Instructionally Related Activities Fee, and under the directives released by the Department of Homeland Security, access to such resources will be inaccessible; therefore let it be

RESOLVED, Associated Students Inc., CSUF calls upon the CSU Chancellor and Board of Trustees to use the CSU's full legal resources to assess what legal means can be exercised in support of our International students and prevent any deportations of CSU students; and be it further

RESOLVED, Associated Students Inc., CSUF calls upon the CSU Chancellor and Board of Trustees to use the CSU's full legal resources to utilize any and all legal precedence to challenge ICE's current and future orders in District Courts; and be it further

RESOLVED, Associated Students Inc., CSUF calls for the creation of a system-wide policy for fulfilling the F-1 visa requirements in order for international students to stay in the country; and be it further

RESOLVED, Associated Students Inc., CSUF calls for the streamlining access to counseling services specifically for international students during this crisis; and be it further

RESOLVED, Associated Students Inc., CSUF calls upon Chancellor Timothy White to mandate all twenty-three CSU campuses to submit academic plans that fulfill said F-1 visa requirements

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³ Travel: Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

⁴ <u>Most countries in the world have imposed partial or complete border closures to foreign nationals due to coronavirus outbreak</u>

with the utmost urgency in order to ensure the safety of all International students for the 2020-21 academic year; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be distributed to Donald Trump, Acting Director of Immigrations and Customs Enforcement Thomas Homan, Chancellor Timothy P. White, each of the twenty-three CSU Presidents, CSU Academic Senate Chair Robert Collins, CSU Assistant Vice Chancellor Leo Van Cleve, U.S. House Judiciary Committee, U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee, U.S. House Immigration and Border Security Subcommittee, U.S. Senate Border Security and Immigration Subcommittee, Senator Kamala Harris, Senator Diane Feinstein, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, and Governor Gavin Newsom.

Adopted by the Board of Directors of the Associated Students Inc., California State University, Fullerton on the seventeenth day of July in the year two thousand twenty.

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Maria Linares	Selene Hanna
Chair, Board of Directors	Treasurer/Secretary, Board of Directors