RESOLUTION ON THE DIVESTMENT FROM UNIVERSITY POLICE TOWARD INVESTMENT IN CSUF CAMPUS SAFETY AND MENTAL HEALTH

Sponsors: Maria Linares, Seleena Mukbel, Martalinda Leiva, Lauren Loeb, Janica Torres, Nicole Gillespie, Khai Hoang

Co-Sponsors: Ileana Lugo (Students for Quality Education), Daniela Hernandez (Students for Quality Education), Ash Hormaza (Women, Gender & Queer Studies Student Association), Leaonna Duran (Women, Gender & Queer Studies Student Association), Nick Henning (Secondary Education Department, CFA Fullerton), Mei-Ling Malone (African American Studies Department), Rebecca Dolhinow (Women & Gender/Queer Studies Department)

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, ASI is recognized as the official voice of over 40,000 CSUF students and tasked with expressing and protecting their rights and interests. ASI works with and checks CSUF administration as part of shared governance in determining if the efforts and initiatives of campus administrators align with the needs and the interests of the student body; and

WHEREAS, Stated in their mission and values, CSUF UPD is committed to providing quality service to the university to facilitate its academic and community service mission, and will successfully meet this challenge by upholding professional standards that embody values of service orientation, effective leadership, and empowerment; and

WHEREAS, The CSU mandates all 23 California State University campuses operate a police department, whose peace officers are sworn and certified by the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST), and each police safety department is charged with maintaining a safe campus environment by enforcing federal and state laws, CSU regulations, and the establishment of crime deterrence and prevention-related programs; and

WHEREAS, The police killings of historically marginalized persons have increased especially those of unarmed Black and Latinx community members who are killed at a disproportionate rate in California. The Black population is 6.5%, yet the percentage of police killings of unarmed Black persons is 19.6%. In addition, the Latinx population is 39.4%, yet the percentage of police killings of unarmed Latinx persons is 46.4%; and

1 https://www.collegetuitioncompare.com/edu/110565/california-state-university-fullerton/enrollment/
2 https://police.fullerton.edu/ourteam/Default.php
3 https://www2.calstate.edu/systemwide-campus-safety-security/Pages/university-police-departments.aspx
WHEREAS, American Indian and Alaskan Native peoples face a higher risk of being killed by police than whites. American Indian men are 1.7 times more likely to be killed by police than white men and American Indian women are 2.1 times more likely to be killed than white women; and

WHEREAS, It was announced on June 12th, 2020, that all 23 of the CSU Police Chiefs pledged to implement recommendations from President Obama’s Task Force on 21st Century Policing to take action and implement accountability, equity, and justice; and

WHEREAS, The guide to assisting students in distress for CSUF states that the policies of the campus police supersede that of CAPS in cases where a student is perceived to be disorderly, reckless, threatening, or a “danger” to self or others, or any other case of perceived potential risk to safety; and

WHEREAS, Such cases are subjective and open to harmful conscious and unconscious racial bias where the policy is to contact campus law enforcement. Additionally, research and history indicate that police unnecessarily escalate conflict situations and mishandle distressing events that would be better served by mental health professionals; and

WHEREAS, In 2018, approximately 25% of fatal shootings perpetrated by police officers involved persons with preexisting mental illnesses; and

WHEREAS, UPD receives training on de-escalation, awareness and Title IX and limited extensive training on how to reduce risk of serious injury or death during an emergency interaction between persons and/or students with mental illness; and

WHEREAS, Faculty and staff who are untrained and ill-equipped to handle mental health crises are guided to complete a lengthy online referral form for students in distress, which may take one to three business days for said student to receive a response and support in finding adequate resources, though they may be in need of urgent support; and

WHEREAS, UPD’s budget for the 2019-2020 year was $6,339,939.90 according to the UPD Revenue/ Expense Summary Report. UPD’s budget for the 2019-2020 year was $4,146,188 according to the 4th quarter Operating Fund Budget/ Expenditure Summary Report. Wherein the numbers for the UPD budget according to different official sources do not align with each other and lack transparency as to why they don’t align; and

WHEREAS, UPD has a higher budget than most student-focused departments and resources such as the Student Engagement 2019-2020 budget according to the 4th quarter Operating

5 https://www.pnas.org/content/116/34/16793
7 http://www.calstate.edu/red-folder/?campusSel=Fullerton
8 http://jaapl.org/content/early/2019/09/24/JAAPL.003863-19
9 http://www.fullerton.edu/caps/pdfs/HSID%20Guide%20FINAL.pdf
10 https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-uV1-dlYrY_bpEQUBxIN0PcHy5MKW1t/view
Fund Budget/Expenditure Summary Report. This includes funding for the Women’s Center ($235,026), Diversity Initiatives and Resource Centers ($479,563), Title IX ($419,019), and more. As well as the Student Retention 2019-2020 budget which includes the Disability Support Services ($1,187,566), Student Health and Counseling ($1,618,609), Student Academic Services ($820,982), Veteran’s Resource Center ($199,753); and

WHEREAS, Historically, law enforcement agencies receive either inadequate or no training in responding to crimes of gender-based sexual violence such as sexual assault, harassment, domestic violence, and stalking; and

WHEREAS, It is not required for campus police to be trained on how to handle sexual assault cases specifically involving victims undergoing stress or trauma immediately after the incident, especially folks from the LGBTQ+ community.

WHEREAS, “Justice” processes through law enforcement do not center nor comprehensively support survivors in their healing, nor do they address the root causes of harm to truly prevent it from happening in the future; and

WHEREAS, UPD is armed with department issued firearms: Glock 22, 40 caliber, Glock 17, 9., AR-15 platform, 223; department issued MP5 and authorized secondary weapons such as .38.380, 9mm, .40 and .45 caliber firearms. Furthermore, officers assigned with the Critical Response Unit are armed with 37/38mm Shoulder GAS Gun; 40mm Launcher; Shotgun, loaded with lethal and non-lethal ammunition, MP5 A2 or A3; and AR-15 rifle and shall not fire warning shots; and

WHEREAS, these weapons are incredibly costly with AR-15 rifles priced at $1,200 - 2,000. Furthermore, four 30-round AR-15 magazines per officer and ammunition cost $15 for each magazine and handguns cost around $350-500. Hundreds are spent on body armor (around $500) including ballistic helmets and visors. Costs for tasers and holsters ($40-50), batons ($100-150), baton ring or collapsible/expandable baton holder ($20-$30) also take away from potential funds that could be diverted to support students’ wellness. Finally, each CSU Police Department also has ballistic shields which cost around $2000. In total, the funding directed towards weaponry is astoundingly excessive and alarming, not only unnecessary but also deeply harmful; and therefore let it be

RESOLVED, ASI commits to address systemic racism embedded in policing and work to co-create a culture of well-being and harm reduction with the CSUF campus community;

RESOLVED, ASI calls upon CSUF to significantly reduce ties and/or sever contracts and trainings with local, county, and state police departments; and let it be further

RESOLVED, ASI calls upon CSUF to publish all existing contracts, memoranda of understanding, and other agreements with local, county, state, and federal agencies for transparency; and let it be further

RESOLVED, ASI calls for banning all aggressive police tactics, lethal firearms, and excessive use of force during student protests, student events, and any other campus situations.

RESOLVED, ASI calls for a divestment from UPD in order to sincerely invest funding in life-affirming resources for all students and those disproportionately harmed by policing and the carceral system; and let it be further

RESOLVED, ASI calls for the hiring of more mental health counselors to represent CSUF’s diverse student body reflected in the American Psychological Association student ratio guidelines\(^\text{14}\) to a minimum ratio of 1 counselor to every 1,000 students on campus; and let it be further

RESOLVED, ASI calls for the hiring of more QTBIPOC (Queer, Trans, Black, Indigenous, People of Color) mental health counselors as racial representation aids student wellness and inclusion; and let it be further

RESOLVED, ASI calls for CSUF to ensure the hiring of more QTBIPOC counselors on campus in order to provide adequate and meaningful mental support for our diverse student population; and let it be further

RESOLVED, ASI calls for CSUF to explore options for mental health crisis responding that is focused on protection and rehabilitation in determining whether a student is a danger to themselves or others; and let it be further

RESOLVED, ASI calls for Student Affairs to provide training in transformative justice values, principles and practices and lessen reliance on policing for event security, campus safety and community outreach; and let it be further

RESOLVED, ASI calls for Housing and Residential Engagement to provide consistent training on unconscious bias and implementing practices of restorative and transformative justice and to lessen reliance on police for non-life threatening incidents; and let it be further

RESOLVED, ASI calls for CSUF to be more transparent and accountable to students by frequently and accurately reporting and publishing all important data and budget allocations of the police budget, line by line on a yearly basis, with accessible language for the campus community to understand; and let it be further

RESOLVED, ASI calls transparency in how University Police uses its budget, including the Chief of Police sharing the annual UPD budget the Chief’s Advisory Board and with the ASI Board of Directors during their report each semester; and let it be further

RESOLVED, ASI calls upon CSUF’s Academic Senate to pass a resolution to divest from UPD and invest in campus safety; and let it be further

RESOLVED, ASI stands in solidarity with state and nationwide movements of defunding the police and commits to working to establish true support and campus safety for our entire student body; and let it be further

RESOLVED, ASI calls for increased student representation on the Chief’s Advisory Board to

include the ASI Chief Inclusion and Diversity Officer; and let it be further

RESOLVED, ASI calls upon CSUF to implement the requested changes outlined by 2024-2025; and let it be further

RESOLVED, ASI calls for CSUF to update the ASI Board of Directors annually on their progress of the requests changes and that update to include transparent and accessible budget and data information; and let it be further

RESOLVED, ASI thanks Students for Quality Education (SQE), the Women, Gender, and Queer Studies Student Association (WGQSSA), the Black Student Union (BSU), the Afro-Ethnic Students Association (AESA), Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlán (MEChA), Central Americans for Empowerment (CAFE), Bayanihan Collective (BK), Student Association for Asian American Studies (SAAAS), Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP), Inter-Tribal Student Council (ITSC), Alianza Chicanx (AC), Asian American Journalists Association-Cal State Fullerton chapter (AAJA-CSUF), Hip Hop Heads (HHH), Queer & Trans People of Color Collective (QTPOCC), Muslim Student Association (MSA), Southwest Asian North African (SWANA), Xhercis Méndez (WGST/QS), Karyl Ketchum (WGST/QS), Moe Miller (Criminal Justice Department), Danny Juarez (EOP), Corrigan Edmondson (American Studies Department), Ryan Leano (Asian American Studies Department), the Women and Gender/Queer Studies Department (WGST/QS), the African American Studies Department (AFAM), California Faculty Association (CFA) Fullerton Chapter, Undocumented & Ally Faculty Staff Association (UAFSA), Chicano/Latino Faculty & Staff Association (CLFSA), Project Rebound, and Researchers and Critical Educators (RACE) for supporting the resolution and signing in solidarity for its passing; and let it be finally

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution will be distributed to: Framroze Virjee, CSUF President; Dr. Carolyn Thomas, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; Dr. Tonantzin Oseguera, Vice President for Student Affairs; Danny C. Kim, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer for the Division of Administration and Finance; Chief Raymund Aguirre, University Police Department; Alisa Flowers, Interim Director of Student Life and Leadership; Sofie Leon, Director, Diversity Initiatives & Resource Centers; the CSUF Academic Senate; the California Faculty Association; the California State Student Association; all remaining 22 CSU Associated Students.

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

Maria Linares
Chair, Board of Directors

Selene Hanna
Treasurer/Secretary, Board of Directors