



### Resolution in Support of Civic Engagement and Campus Wide Voter Expansion

**Whereas:** Governor Newsom’s Executive Order N-64-20 stated that institutions “Provide standards to ensure that, even in the context of an “all-mail ballot” election, voters are able to access in-person voting opportunities;” and

**Whereas:** California State University, Fullerton (CSUF) values “free expression, both as a right and a responsibility, and aims to inspire all Titans to be informed, active, and engaged citizens”; and

**Whereas:** CSUF’s campus President Fram Virjee stated “I ask that you speak up to support and amplify the voices of those who have been marginalized, because only together we can effect change”; and

**Whereas:** “The Academic Senate is the official representative legislative body of the university and speaks on behalf of the university community on matters within its purview,” and

**Whereas:** The California State University, Fullerton Academic Senate is committed to fostering a critical understanding of complex and ever-growing social problems, such as racism, oppression, crime and punishment, and anchoring curriculum on research and theory that examine systems of inequality and their mutual relationship with social policies; and

**Whereas:** “The simple act of voting is the cornerstone of our democracy. While Americans universally celebrate the right to vote in principle, our nation’s history has been marked by intense struggles to expand access to voting for groups that have been excluded from this basic feature of citizenship: women, African-Americans, young people, and immigrants. We should never take the right to vote for granted, when so many have fought so hard to make sure that it is a right that is protected for all Americans”; and

**Whereas:** Civic engagement is “working to make a difference in the civic life of one’s community and developing the combination of knowledge, skills, values and motivation to make that difference. It means promoting the quality of life in a community, through both political and non-political processes”; and

**Whereas:** Election day 2020 is on November 3rd, 2020; and

**Whereas:** Voting has continued to increase since 2013, “28,196 CSUF students registered to vote in 2018, an increase of 4,988 students from 2013 (23,208)”; and “17,432 CSUF students voted in 2018, an increase of 11,924 students from 2014 (5,508)”; and “56.2 percent of students voted by mail in 2018, and 43.5 percent voted in person on election day”; and

**Whereas:** According to the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) students are a part of communities that are susceptible to voter suppression and sometimes targeted; therefore, be it

**Resolved:** That CSUF faculty, staff, and administration commit to nonpartisan voter education, promoting voter registration efforts, voter engagement, and voter participation leading up to elections and throughout election cycles; and be it further

**Resolved:** That CSUF Academic Senate encourages collaboration between CSUF and the Orange County Registrar of Voters to secure accessible vote centers at the CSUF main campus and at the CSUF Irvine Center for all future elections; and be it further

**Resolved:** That a drive-thru, OC Registrar of Voters approved, vote-by-mail ballot drop off be made available in Lot R outside of the Titan Student Union to make ballot drop-off accessible to students, faculty, and staff; and be it further

**Resolved:** That the CSUF Academic Senate explores making General Election Day (on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in even numbered years) as a campus-wide holiday; and be it further

**Resolved:** That CSUF Academic Senate encourage the CSUF ASCSU delegation to advocate for General Election Day being named a system-wide holiday; and be it further

**Resolved:** That copies of this resolution be distributed to CSUF faculty, staff, students, administrators, Cal State Student Association, CSU Chancellor Timothy White, and CSU Chancellor-elect Joseph Castro.