Date: February 20, 2025



Academic Senate

Resolution Calling for Transparency Regarding the Budget, Program, and Employee Cuts at Sonoma State

WHEREAS: the California State University (CSU) system plays a critical role in providing future leaders with the skills and knowledge they will need to thrive in the workforce and help drive California's economy; and

WHEREAS: the CSU is the state's greatest producer of bachelor's degrees and the country's largest fouryear public university system; and

WHEREAS: the CSU strives to create a welcoming and supportive environment for all members of its campus communities; and

WHEREAS: earning a CSU degree can change the trajectory of students' lives, as well as the lives of their family members, by opening doors to opportunities for social mobility; and

WHEREAS: in a January 22, 2025 email, Sonoma State University (SSU) Interim President Emily Cutrer announced detailed budget reductions that included a decision by Chancellor Garcia to eliminate over 25% of the workforce, including the elimination of 23 academic programs, closure of 6 departments, merger of another 7 departments, and termination of intercollegiate athletics; and

WHEREAS: the state legislators have joined the heartbroken community of SSU to voice their dismay for the university's inadequate consultation, transparency, and vision; and

WHEREAS: the abrupt announcement has left students without a clear plan as to how they will complete their degree requirements; and

RESOLVED: that the Academic Senate of CSU Fullerton implore that Interim President Cutrer, Chancellor Garcia and the CSU Board of Trustees work with the faculty, local community, and elected officials surrounding SSU to identify how to reinstate the operations and workforce being threatened by the capricious decision that will negatively impact current and future generations of students; and be it

RESOLVED: that the Academic Senate of CSU Fullerton implore that Interim President Cutrer, Chancellor Garcia and the CSU Board of Trustees consider the long-term impact that these cuts will have on the student outcomes in the state of California; and be it

RESOLVED: that the Academic Senate of CSU Fullerton urge Chancellor Garcia and the CSU Board of Trustees consult with the appropriate stakeholders prior to any decision that will eliminate the opportunity for underrepresented first-generation students to earn a degree; and be it

RESOLVED: that copies of this resolution be shared with Chancellor Garcia, the California State University Board of Trustees, Governor Newsom, the Academic Senate and Interim President at Sonoma State, and the Academic Senate of the CSU.