

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FULLERTON

Academic Senate

ASD 21-84

Date: May 20, 2021

Resolution in Support of Addressing Community Mental Health in Post-Pandemic Campus Re-Entry

Whereas the COVID-19 pandemic did not create injustices and inequities; it exacerbated and laid bare the existing deficiencies in our systems that have resulted in higher morbidity and mortality rates in our Black, Indigenous, and Persons of Color (BIPOC) communities; and

Whereas in addition to the coronavirus pandemic, the pandemics of racial injustice and violence against our Black, Latinx, Asian Pacific Islander and Desi American (APIDA) communities deepened the trauma and pain of communities already suffering from higher rates of morbidity and mortality due to the coronavirus pandemic; and

Whereas the multiple and intersecting trauma, grief, and mourning for campus families and communities who lost loved ones to the multiple pandemics in 2020-2021 can lead to a myriad of mental health challenges; and

Whereas more than 200 campus community members signed a statement leading to this resolution; and

Whereas the campus has made individual-based resources available to our students, faculty, and staff (such as YOU@Fullerton, among other services), but campus community-based resources are less available; therefore, be it

Resolved that the Academic Senate of California State University, Fullerton supports the planning of university-wide commemorations to honor the losses experienced by our CSUF community; and be it further

Resolved that the Academic Senate of California State University, Fullerton supports the co-creation of culturally relevant spaces for communities of color to connect and process how they have been affected by events of the past year (and ongoing events) and share strategies for self- and collective-care; and be it further

Resolved that the Academic Senate of California State University, Fullerton supports increased access to mental health services both on-campus and off-campus (counseling, grief and loss, substance misuse programs, and suicide intervention) for students, staff, and faculty; and be it further

Resolved that the Academic Senate of California State University, Fullerton endorses ongoing activities focused on wellness, self-care, and campus community collective care; and be it further

Resolved that the Academic Senate of California State University, Fullerton encourages members of our campus community to exercise leadership in raising awareness and naming specific mental health issues, such as: Suicidality, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, Depression, and Anxiety, as well as experiences of grief, lack of meaning, and negative effects on cognitive functioning; and be it further

Resolved that the Academic Senate of California State University, Fullerton supports engagement in activities and promote social justice and healing amid racial and other intersecting forms of trauma; and be it further

Resolved that the Academic Senate of California State University, Fullerton acknowledges the need for additional resources for faculty and staff associations to help address the campus collective traumas and need for self- and community-care as we reintegrate our community on campus.