



Academic Senate
Solano Community College
4000 Suisun Valley Road, Fairfield, CA 94534
www.solano.edu/academic_senate

RESOLUTION 12.12.2016:

Endorse Local Actions by the Solano Community College Academic Senate and the Solano Community College District [SCCD] Board of Trustees in Defense of Equity for All Students, Faculty and Staff, including the Designation of SCCD as a “Sanctuary Campus”

WHEREAS, Solano Community College District [SCCD] is a collegiate institution of higher learning dedicated to the preservation of Academic Freedom, including teaching and learning through free inquiry and the exchange of ideas, an academic and professional matter, per California Education Code §70902(b)(7), Title 5 California Code of Regulations §53200, and SCCD Board Policy 2005;

WHEREAS, the Academic Senate of the Solano Community College District [SCCD] is committed to inclusivity, dignity and respect for all of its diverse student body, faculty and staff through education in a safe and tolerant environment which celebrates and protects the core values of Academic Freedom, wherein all students, faculty and staff may express and challenge ideas and beliefs without threat or fear of retaliation, including actions on the part of SCCD or the governments of the State of California and the United States of America;

WHEREAS, Solano Community College District [SCCD] assures equity in all educational programs and college services in its adoption, per SCCD Board Policy 5355 (2012), of its Student Equity Plan (2015) which defines equity as that condition where “all students enjoy the same right and access to education,” and which commits to “the overarching equity goal” of providing “a teaching and learning environment that is welcoming, supportive and accessible to all participants, regardless of ethnicity, culture, nationality, language, disability, gender, sexual orientation, or religion and to ensure that all students have an equal opportunity for academic success”;

WHEREAS, Solano Community College District [SCCD] Board Policy 1003 (2016) defines the District Mission as “to educate a culturally and academically diverse student population drawn from our local communities and beyond,” wherein “we are committed to student learning and achievement and to helping our students achieve their educational, professional, and personal goals . . . [to transform] students’ lives with undergraduate education, transfer courses, career-and-technical education, certificate programs, workforce development and training, basic-skills education, and lifelong-learning opportunities”;

WHEREAS, the aforementioned values have been radically challenged by the rhetoric and planned actions of some elected and appointed officials of the federal government of the United States which, in turn, have emboldened statements and acts of intolerance within the State of California, including its California Community College system;

Approved by the Academic Senate of Solano Community College on 12 December 2016

WHEREAS, on 17 November 2016, the Lieutenant Governor of the State of California issued a call to action to the higher education system of the State of California, including the University of California, California State University and California Community College systems, in which he expresses deep concern over “the nationally-reported fears expressed by undocumented and minority US residents,” including the proposal by the President-Elect “to deport up to three million US residents” as a case for all California colleges and universities to declare themselves “sanctuary campuses,” to include a codified commitment by the College not to share student information with the federal government;

WHEREAS, in its memo, “California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office [CCCCO] Statement of Values and Commitment to Undocumented Students” (5 December 2016), the CCCCCO provides:

- “information and guidance to districts and colleges regarding the possible end of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA, and other immigration-related uncertainties,” including its “unwavering commitment to the values spelled out in the vision statement of our system’s Strategic Plan: ‘All people have the opportunity to reach their full educational potential’; ‘The Colleges embrace diversity in all its forms’; ‘All people have the right to access quality higher education’”;
- reaffirmation that California Community Colleges are “open to all students who meet the minimum requirements for admission, regardless of immigration status,” that “the Chancellor’s Office will not release any personally identifiable student information, including any data related to immigration status, without a judicial warrant, subpoena or court order, unless authorized by the student or required by law,” that “the Chancellor’s Office will not cooperate with any federal effort to create a registry of individuals based on any protected characteristics such as religion, national origin, race, or sexual orientation,” and that “the Chancellor’s Office will continue to advocate for educational opportunities for all students in the community college system, regardless of immigration status, at the state and federal level”;
- recommended local practices, including that district police departments should not detain, question or arrest any individual solely on the basis of (suspected) undocumented immigration status; that districts should not cooperate with any federal effort to create a registry of individuals based on any protected characteristics such as religion, national origin, race or sexual orientation; that no confidential student records should be released without a judicial warrant, subpoena or court order, unless authorized by the student or required by law;

WHEREAS, on behalf of the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges [ASCCC], President Julie Bruno calls on local campuses “to live in compassion and empathy for those around us who are affected by the current political environment” and asks colleges to recognize that “students need safe spaces that provide the security necessary to learn and thrive,” and that colleges should continue to work to “guarantee that our colleges remain places of inclusion, diversity, opportunity, and educational excellence for all”;

RESOLVED, that the Academic Senate of Solano Community College direct its Professional Development and Flex Subcommittee to develop, promote and provide professional development and training for faculty and staff in the areas of equity, privilege, and tolerance with the intent of continuously improving the capacity of Solano Community College to provide a learning environment which serves equitably all its students regardless of gender identification, sexual orientation, nationality, immigration status, ethnicity and/or faith;

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RESOLVED, that the Academic Senate of Solano Community College work with the Office of the Superintendent-President to implement best practices to identify for the community Solano Community College District as a safe learning environment which serves equitably all its students regardless of gender identification, sexual orientation, nationality, immigration status, ethnicity and/or faith as a precondition to the free exchange of ideas and academic freedom;

RESOLVED, that the Academic Senate of Solano Community College strongly endorse the designation of Solano Community College as a “sanctuary campus,” to include: the formal adoption of the designation through resolution of “sanctuary campus” by the Solano Community College District (SCCD) Board of Trustees; a campus-wide review of Family Education Rights and Privacy Act [FERPA] implications, including how to protect student data from abuse by the Federal Government; a campus-wide review of protocols and training for campus police and administrative officials in cooperating with immigration enforcement; a codified commitment from SCCD not to share students’ personal information with the federal government, including any federal effort to create a registry of individuals based on any protected characteristics such as religion, national origin, race or sexual orientation;

RESOLVED, that the Academic Senate of Solano Community College (SCC) directs its president to present this resolution and to represent its content to the Office of the Superintendent-President of SCC and the Solano Community College District Board of Trustees, and, in a demonstration of support, to share the content of this resolution with the Associated Students of Solano College, the executive board of the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges, the Chancellor’s Office for California Community Colleges, the Office of the Lieutenant Governor of the State of California and the Office of the Governor of California, as well as other colleges and/or districts in the California Community College system where deemed appropriate by the president of the SCC Academic Senate.