

Adopted: June 5, 2018

**ACADEMIC SENATE
Of
CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY
San Luis Obispo, CA**

AS-855-18

RESOLUTION CONDEMNING RECENT RACIST EVENTS AT LAMBDA CHI ALPHA

- 1 WHEREAS, Photographic evidence posted to social media shows that the Lambda Chi
2 Alpha Fraternity House hosted a party coinciding with PolyCultural
3 Weekend during which at least one student attended wearing blackface and
4 numerous others dressed in "gangster" attire in a photo captioned "she
5 wants a gangster not a pretty boy"; and
6
- 7 WHEREAS, Academic Senate Resolution AS-807-15 "Resolution on Cal Poly Statement
8 on Diversity and Inclusivity" (Approved November 17, 2015), states, in part:
9 "Cal Poly is an inclusive community that embraces differences in people and
10 thoughts. By being open to new ideas and showing respect or diverse points
11 of view, we support a climate that allows all students, faculty, and staff to
12 feel valued, which in turn facilitates the recruitment and retention of a
13 diverse student population. We are a culturally invested university whose
14 members take personal responsibility for fostering excellence in our own
15 and others' endeavors"; and
16
- 17 WHEREAS, The images from the Lambda Chi Alpha gathering foster an environment in
18 which students of color and other historically underrepresented populations
19 feel both unwelcome and unsafe at Cal Poly, as attested to by speakers at a
20 Town Hall hosted by the Black Student Union on Monday, April 9, 2018, and
21 by the peaceful protests and boycotts joined by a diverse group of student
22 organizations during Cal Poly's 25th Annual Open House weekend;
23 therefore be it
24
- 25 RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate condemns the racist actions of the Lambda Chi
26 Alpha, Phi Sigma Zeta Chapter as well as their inactions as an affront to our
27 community standards, our academic endeavors, and the desire to create a
28 more diverse and inclusive environment, and be it further
29
- 30 RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate stands in solidarity with all student groups,
31 administrators, and community members seeking to transform the
32 University into a more diverse and welcoming environment for students
33 from historically underrepresented populations.

Proposed by: Gregory F. Domber, Lecturer History Department
and Seth D. Hanna, Lecturer Sociology Department
Date: May 3, 2018



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

MEMORANDUM

To: Dustin Stegner
Chair, Academic Senate

Date: July 20, 2018

From: Jeffrey D. Armstrong
President

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jeff".

Copies: K. Enz Finken
C. Vizcaino Villa
K. Humphrey
J. DeLeon

Subject: Response to Academic Senate Resolution AS-855-18 – Resolution Condemning Recent Racist Events at Lambda Chi Alpha

This memo acknowledges receipt of the above-entitled resolution.

As I stated in my April 17, 2018 communication to the campus regarding the events mentioned in this resolution, I do not condone racist speech and actions – they are inconsistent with my personal values and those of Cal Poly. I continue to hope and strive, as many of you do, for a time when our campus no longer experiences actions that hurt or intimidate members of our community. Working together we will move forward and create a campus community where diversity and inclusion are a reality for every member. This remains a priority for me as president of Cal Poly.