Resolution in Response to University of California's 2016-17 Budget and Enrollment Plan

WHEREAS, The University of California announced its plan in November 2015 to enroll 5,000 additional students for the 2016-17 academic year and 2,500 additional students in each of the subsequent two years¹;

WHEREAS, The 2015-16 budget for the State of California promised \$25 million in additional funding for the University of California if 5,000 new in-state undergraduates are enrolled before the end of the 2016-17 academic year²;

WHEREAS, the State of California has heretofore contributed \$8,280 per student, which is already a steady decrease from its prior contribution of \$18,040 in 1990;³

WHEREAS, The University of California requested \$6 million in additional funding to support the enrollment of 2,000 graduate students over three years⁴;

WHEREAS, Graduate students, through graduate students' employment as teaching assistants (TAs), graduate student researchers (GSRs), and graduate student instructors (GSIs) are indispensable to the teaching of undergraduate students at the University of California;

WHEREAS, The enrollment of additional students will increase demand on both academic/instructional workers, such as graduate students and lecturers, as well as on clerical staff and service workers;

WHEREAS, The University of California Student Association collected nearly three-hundred testimonies in one week of outreach from students who are suffering from negligent housing and food security issues at the University of California;

WHEREAS, In November 2015, the President and Board of Regents of the University of California released an amicus brief regarding Fisher vs. University of Texas stating that race-blind admissions hinder the University's ability to ensure diversity on campus⁵;

WHEREAS, The current enrollment plan does not specify how the expansion of services and facilities students need to succeed nor an explicit commitment to diversity for the newly enrolled student body will occur;

WHEREAS, The current demographics of most UC campuses fail to reflect the diversity of California society, with UC Berkeley in particular representing the structural failures of the UC system, as only 3% of the UCB student body identifies as African American, and only 13% of the UCB student body identifies as Chicanx or Latinx⁶;

WHEREAS, The current retention and quality of life of students of color is of critical importance to the success of the UC and California society;

WHEREAS, The UC currently fails to provide adequate funding or other resources for retention or quality of life for UC students of color⁷; and

WHEREAS, It is the mission of the University of California Student Association to advocate for both accessibility and quality and, given that UCSA's undergraduate, graduate, and professional students are currently working on campaigns and advocacy agendas addressing housing and food insecurity, as well the lack of available resources around mental health and

¹ http://universityofcalifornia.edu/news/uc-dramatically-boost-california-student-enrollment

http://dailybruin.com/2015/06/15/california-legislature-approves-budget-allocating-additional-25m-for-uc/

³ http://regents.universityofcalifornia.edu/regmeet/nov14/f1attach2.pdf

⁴ http://universityofcalifornia.edu/news/uc-dramatically-boost-california-student-enrollment

 $^{^{5}\} http://university of california.edu/press-room/uc-files-amicus-brief-affirmative-action-case$

⁶ http://diversity.berkeley.edu/undergraduate-students-current-census

⁷ http://afrikanblackcoalition.org/2015/03/12/black-students-at-uc-berkeley-demand-institutional-changes/

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sexual assault on UC campuses, and the lack of student and faculty diversity, UCSA is is concerned about the impact of adding more students given the current situation.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors of the University of California Student Association demands that additional funding be provided to ensure newly-enrolled students receive a quality world-class education, including funds to specifically support: short-term affordable housing growth for students and families, a long-term commitment to support the Global Food Initiative, expanded graduate enrollment, tier one mental health services, public transportation stipends, reduced class sizes, and wages and benefits for on-campus service workers;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors of the University of California Student Association requests any funding allotments from the Legislature in the 2016-2017 budget be explicitly allocated to support the above services;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors of the University of California Student Association requests a commitment from the University of California and the State of California that the state's per-capita financial contribution to UC student tuition will increase after this one-time growth initiative;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors of the University of California Student Association demands the State of California, its Governor and Legislature commit to including realistic funds earmarked for graduate growth when it requests undergraduate enrollment growth from the University of California in the future; and

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors of the University of California Student Association demands that the University of California include a commitment to diversity in its recruitment and admission of additional students and any new faculty hired to teach them.