Resolution Number: RF16-353
December, 2016

Whereas:
RATIONALE: The 2016 presidential election outcome has caused many San Francisco State University students, staff, and faculty a great deal of fear, anxiety, and insecurity about the future of undocumented campus community members and their families. Academic Senators have been approached directly by students, staff, and faculty with concerns about our campus remaining a safe and welcoming environment. There is growing concern that a climate of danger and uncertainty will adversely affect both the immediate educational success of our students and the longer-term quality of life experience of California’s families and communities. It is important for us to affirm the inherent rights to well-being and to address the individual and collective safety needs of all members of our campus community regardless of immigration status. Finally, this resolution is meant to lay the groundwork and articulate the need for a Dream Resource Center, which is a concrete way in which San Francisco State University can support our community.

Whereas:
the dramatic increase in enrollment of more than 600 undocumented students within the last 5 years at San Francisco State University requires an institutional response; and

Whereas:
the mission of San Francisco State University includes an “unwavering commitment to social justice that is central to the work of the university”; and

Whereas:
on November 16, 2016, Chancellor Tim White, in direct reference to the election results, stated, “There is no ambiguity here? We are deeply committed to fostering a campus community that is safe and welcoming for everyone”; and

Whereas:
in a memo to all CSU Presidents, dated July 29, 2016, regarding U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Chancellor Tim White stated, “CSU is committed to assuring an environment where all members of our university community are not hesitant or afraid to come forward or interact with our University Police departments for fear of intervention by ICE”; and

Whereas:
the City and County of San Francisco has been a “city and county of refuge” since 1989 and San Francisco Supervisor David Campos is proposing that the city spend $5 million to provide legal representation for undocumented people facing deportation; and
Whereas: personal information in campus systems increases the vulnerability of undocumented students, and puts these individuals within an information access “danger zone” contrary to the initial stated purpose of programs such as Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA); and

Whereas: one of the Community Initiatives of the Strategic Plan of San Francisco State University is to “establish a resource center for SF State students who are undocumented, AB 540, or have been granted Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and provide them with information, guidance and support while fostering a sense of community for undocumented students to facilitate their success and pathway to graduation;” and

Whereas: the Associated Students of San Francisco State University demonstrated their commitment to undocumented students by allocating $8000 for the establishment of a Dream Resource Center; and

Whereas: the core value of Courage in the San Francisco State University’s strategic plan states “Courage recognizes that innovation involves risk and failure, and it embraces change and adversity as opportunities;” therefore be it

Resolved: that the Academic Senate of San Francisco State University calls for the university administration, faculty, and staff to align institutional policies and practices with a commitment to protecting the experience of personhood safety and to facilitating the timeliness of academic success; and be it further

Resolved: that the University administration, take an active role in ensuring that all faculty and staff know where to refer undocumented students who are in need of support and resources; and be it further

Resolved: that the Academic Senate of San Francisco State University supports a welcoming environment and a safe space for undocumented students by establishing a DREAM Resource Center which would provide academic and personal support; and be it further

Resolved: that this document be distributed in particular to the University President, University
Provost, AVP for Academic Affairs Operations, Executive Director of Academic Technologies, VP for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, University Registrar, Director of Enrollment Management Technology, and all campus departments that interact with students directly or indirectly.