Resolution Number: RS19-387
May, 2019

Whereas: RATIONALE: The Academic Senate is an inclusive community and recognizes significant leadership and long-standing service by faculty, staff, students and administrators. When a long-term member leaves the University, it is important to provide a moment of recognition for their altruistic contributions in the form of a resolution.

Whereas: President Leslie E. Wong has served since August 2012 as the 13th President of San Francisco State University, as part of a career spanning over five decades of service in higher education; and

Whereas: President Wong’s leadership of San Francisco State University’s first comprehensive fundraising campaign (also known as the successful BOLD Thinking Campaign) has resulted in nearly $150 million in support of student scholarships and faculty research and creative works; and

Whereas: President Wong secured the two largest gifts in San Francisco State University’s history, which will support excellence in teaching and learning, and provide unprecedented opportunities to students in the Colleges of Business and Liberal and Creative Arts, as well as to students throughout the University; and

Whereas: President Wong supported the founding of the Office of Equity Programs & Compliance to respond effectively to discrimination, harassment, retaliation and Title IX concerns on campus; and

Whereas: President Wong supported and encouraged the formation of the Division of Equity & Community Inclusion to promote equity, inclusion, social justice, as well as improve campus climate for all students, staff and faculty; and

Whereas: During President Wong’s tenure, major construction began on campus for the first time in decades; the Mashouf Wellness Center opened in 2017; and two other projects will be completed in fall 2020: a new mixed-use student housing project, which will provide an additional 500 students with housing on campus, and a state of the art media production and classroom facility, which will ensure that the University and our graduates remain at
the forefront of technological innovation and leadership; and

Whereas:
Under his leadership, the university launched a concerted effort to update the campus physical master plan to address its severe deferred maintenance challenges, and to create a more sustainable campus capable of providing affordable housing to its community members; and

Whereas:
President Wong co-chaired the strategic planning group that has provided a value-driven roadmap to advance the University’s goals; and

Whereas:
With his unwavering support, the campus has launched the first-ever physical master planning process for its Romberg Tiburon Campus, which will continue to provide the University community and the world at large with a unique place for research, scholarship and learning in estuary and ocean sciences and other fields of study, which will benefit from its location on the San Francisco Bay; and

Whereas:
Under President Wong’s leadership, the University was designated a Hispanic Serving Institution and is also recognized as an Asian American, Native American, and Pacific Islander Serving Institution; and

Whereas:
President Wong advocated for the CSU system wide expansion of Project Rebound; fifty years after Professor John Irwin founded the program; and after decades of stewardship by Associated Students at San Francisco State; and

Whereas:
President Wong has encouraged us to remain united in our passion for academic excellence, intellectual discovery, creative and critical inquiry and educational equity; and

Whereas:
President Wong hired 194 new tenure-tenure track faculty during his administration, a majority of whom are women, and more than half from underrepresented groups; and

Whereas:
President Wong’s leadership in national higher education organizations, including membership on the Board of Directors of the American Association of Colleges and Universities, and the National Collegiate Athletics Association’s Board of Governors Committee to Promote Cultural Diversity and Equity, fosters the University’s reputation; and
Whereas:
President Wong elevated the standing of the University through his service on a variety of civic organizations such as the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, the Bay Area Council, and the Committee of 100 (C-100), a national organization dedicated to promoting the achievements of Chinese Americans and encouraging a strong relationship between the people and leaders of the United States and China; and

Whereas:
President Wong was committed to shared governance with the San Francisco State University Academic Senate and met jointly with members of the Senate Executive Committee and the Provost during monthly breakfast conversations; therefore be it

Resolved:
That the San Francisco State University Academic Senate extends its appreciation to President Leslie E. Wong for his leadership and many accomplishments in promoting San Francisco State University as one of the nation’s most diverse, active and transformative institutions of public higher education; and be it further

Resolved:
That the San Francisco State University Academic Senate extends its best wishes and congratulations to President Leslie E. Wong on his retirement from this great University.