Resolution in Support of the Development of a Faculty & Staff First Time Home Buyers Assistance Program

Resolution Number: RF19-390
November, 2019

Whereas:
RATIONALE: One of the barriers to successful long-term employment at San Francisco State University is the ever-worsening housing crisis in the San Francisco Bay Area. The Bay Area housing market is notoriously difficult to break into, especially on California State salaries. The development of a first-time home buyer’s assistance program for faculty & staff would provide an opportunity to create housing stability for employees, improve employee retention, attract faculty & staff candidates in national searches, and build socioeconomic equity for faculty & staff at San Francisco State University.

Whereas:
the San Francisco Bay Area has experienced an ever-worsening housing crisis with no end in sight; and

Whereas:
the San Francisco Bay Area housing crisis has had an adverse impact on San Francisco State University in recruitment and retention of faculty and staff positions; and

Whereas:
the barriers to entering the San Francisco Bay Area housing market are complex, having varied impacts on faculty and staff with differing income levels and living arrangements, and will require a diverse portfolio of services and programs to address the problem, including home buying assistance; and

Whereas:
the University of California, Stanford University, Santa Clara University, and the University of San Francisco all have homebuyer assistance programs for their faculty; and

Whereas:
none of the Bay Area CSUs have such programs, including San Francisco State University; and

Whereas:
this year, University Advancement and the SF State Foundation met their fund raising goal for their first comprehensive campaign over a year ahead of schedule, totaling over $150,000,000, and demonstrating their ability to raise significant funds to support University programs; therefore be it

Resolved:
that San Francisco State University establish its first first-time homebuyer assistance program for faculty and staff; and be it further

Resolved:
that University Enterprises, University Advancement, and the SF State Foundation work together to develop the program, including its details, its management plan, its initial funding requirements, and its long term sustainability; and be it further that the first-time home buying assistance program be developed as part of a multi-faceted approach which includes other available CSU system, local, state, & federal programs that may be available; and be it further

Resolved:
the first-time home buying assistance program include counseling/training programs to prepare and assist first-time home buyers with understanding and navigating the new responsibilities and pitfalls of home ownership; and be it further

Resolved:
that University Enterprises, University Advancement, and the SF State Foundation Board work together to develop and implement a campaign to fund the program; and be it further

Resolved:
that this resolution be sent to the President and Vice Presidents of San Francisco State University, the SF State Foundation Board, the Academic Senate of California State University, the Governor and Lieutenant Governor of California, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, the California State University Chancellor’s Office, & University Enterprises of San Francisco State University.