RESOLUTION No. 2014-15-10

AUTHORED BY: Jerry Dinzes, A.S. President
Juan Cervantes, External Affairs Representative
Taylor Morrison, Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences Representative

REFERRED TO: AS COUNCIL

ACTION APPROVED: February 19, 2015

SUBJECT: Resolution on the Creation of a Scholarship Trust for Native American Students

WHEREAS, the mission of the Associated Students Council of Humboldt State University serves to “assist in the protection of rights and interests of the individual student and student body, (...) and stimulate the educational, social, physical, and cultural well-being of the University community”; and,

WHEREAS, the Associated Students (A.S.) Council of Humboldt State University (HSU) recognizes the Wiyot Tribe as the original inhabitants of the Humboldt Bay area, and encourages our membership of over 8,000 students to recognize the history of this land and that the Wiyot Nation has never surrendered their aboriginal rights to their lands, resources, or territory by treaty or any other instrument or decree; and,

WHEREAS, Chancellor Timothy White and the California State University's (CSU) Native American Initiative intends to increase the number of students from Tribal Nations who enroll and graduate from the CSU, an endeavor that will require innovative policies and practices; and,

WHEREAS, an “Honor Tax” is defined in this resolution as a surcharge that is attached to the purchase of goods and services that are sold by the Humboldt State University Center to support Native American students at HSU; and,

WHEREAS, in the 2013-14 academic year, 1% of the University Center’s gross dining sales was $102,773.80; and,

WHEREAS, for the 2013-2014 year the University Center brought in $10,277,380 in food sales with $7,205,330 from residence hall students on meal plans and $570,000 from off campus meal plans; therefore, be it,

RESOLVED, by the A.S. Council of HSU that we encourage the campus community to pledge our respect to the Wiyot Peoples’ historical, cultural, and economical relationships to their homelands which have provided them the gifts of physical and spiritual sustenance since time immemorial; and; and be it further,
RESOLVED, by the A.S. Council of HSU we request that the University Center, in conjunction with local tribes and an indigenous non-profit organization, preferably the Seventh Generation Fund, to develop the framework for a trust that would award scholarships to Native American students; and, be it further,

RESOLVED, by the A.S. Council of HSU that we request the University Center to implement an “Honor Tax” of 1% that would be released to the aforementioned trust, and that would be placed on the goods and services sold through University Center; and, be it further,

RESOLVED, that the A.S. Council of HSU recognizes the prevalence of food insecurity on campus and we request that the University Center implement the ability for students, employees, and faculty to voluntarily opt out of the surcharge when purchasing meal plans; be it further,

RESOLVED, that the A.S. Council shall review the implementation of the “Honor Tax” every five years, and place it as a referendum on the spring election ballot to confirm support from future students; and, be it further,

RESOLVED, that we invite all residents, organizations, businesses, and governmental entities to join us in acknowledging and respecting the sovereignty of the Wiyot Nation through participating in this “Honor Tax”; and, be it further,

RESOLVED, that the A.S. Council seeks the opinion of the student body regarding the “Honor Tax” and requests that the University Center respect the result of the “Honor Tax” Referendum; and, be it further,

RESOLVED, that the following question be placed on the Student General Election Ballot for the election of April 21-23, 2015:

1. Shall the University Center adopt an “Honor Tax” of 1% to develop a trust that would award scholarships to Native American students at HSU?
   a. Yes
   b. No

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to, but not limited to: Executive Director of the University Center Dave Nakamura, CSU Chancellor Timothy White, HSU President Lisa A. Rossbacher, HSU Interim Provost Jenny Zorn, HSU Administrative Vice President Joyce Lopes, HSU Student Affairs Vice President Peg Blake, HSU Resident Housing Association, the Unified Students of Humboldt, the Many Tribal Nations Club, The Indigenous Student Alliance, the Lost Coast Outpost, Times Standard, Mad River Union, North Coast Journal, KIEM TV, KAEF 23, KFMI-FM 96.3, KISS-FM 99.1, KSLUG-FM 93.1, and to the Indigenous Tribes of the North Coast, including the Yuroks, Hupas, Wiyots, Karuk, Bear River, Blue Lake, and Trinidad Tribes.

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