



Associated Students

RESOLUTION No. 2018-19-11

AUTHORED BY: Bernadette McConnell, College of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences
Representative
Sarah Kanga Livingstone, College of Natural Resources & Sciences
Representative

REFERRED TO: A.S. BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ACTION TAKEN: April 29th, 2019

SUBJECT: An Act Against the Permanent Removal of the Redwood Tree Across From the Library.

WHEREAS, the Associated Students (AS) Board of Directors of Humboldt State University (HSU) is the single recognized voice for over 7,500 students; and,

WHEREAS, the Mission of the Associated Students of Humboldt State University serves to "assist in the protection of rights and interests of the individual student and the student body," and to "stimulate the educational, social, physical, and cultural well-being of the University community"; and,

WHEREAS, Facilities Management oversees the Library and Theatre Arts Building Seismic Retrofit project, and,

WHEREAS, Facilities Management must consider the requirement by California Occupational Health and Safety Administration regulations, that a crane must be able to rotate 360 degrees without obstructions for stabilization for high winds, and,

WHEREAS, To meet this regulation Facilities Management cut down the top of a old *Sequoia sempervirens*, also colloquially known as a redwood tree located adjacent from MUSIC A, which will hereafter be referred as The Redwood, on March 30th to allow the crane to rotate 360 degrees, and,

WHEREAS, Facilities only released a campus wide notice of the removal of the top 1/3rd of The Redwood March 29th, the day before the planned removal, and,

WHEREAS, Facilities recognized this decision was made in haste to keep on construction schedule, without having consulted the Landscape and Tree Advisory subcommittee, and,

WHEREAS, Facilities Management is considering completely cutting down and removing the rest in the summer of the under the perceived notion, The Redwood is exposed to interior rot, and,

WHEREAS, The Redwood is a unique specimen comprised of seven shoots that have been cut in the past, and bark has grown in between to establish the present tree now, and,

WHEREAS, Scheduling removal of the entire tree during the summer is an inherent disadvantage to students advocating against the removal of the entire tree, and,

WHEREAS, Redwoods are well known for recovering well from previous cuts, relatively to most cases of topping of other species, while rot is generally a possible vulnerability under the condition there has been damage near the base, and,

WHEREAS, Redwoods are an integral part of our campus and aid to the beautification and educative value of our campus, and

WHEREAS, Inevitably there will be future capital projects that would alter the landscape of Humboldt State University campus, including the possibility of topping and/or removal of other plants, and

WHEREAS, The previously mentioned events and decisions have led students to recognize the lack of student input, advising, and coordination with decisions made by Facilities Management; therefore be it resolved,

RESOLVED, Associated Students recognizes the educative value, aesthetic value, resilience of the Redwood, and be it

RESOLVED, Associated Students acknowledges the wishes of several students to keep the Redwood, and the general concern by students of the value of their input in decisions made to the Humboldt State University campus landscape, and be it

RESOLVED, Therefore recognizes the Redwood as a symbol of Humboldt State resiliency, and has potential to make environmentally sustainable decisions, and be it

RESOLVED, Associated Students asks that Facilities should wait to cut down The Redwood until it is confirmed the tree is rotting and unable to be saved by giving the tree time for new shoots to develop, and is properly determined the tree's condition is unsuitable for either the tree or the public, and be it

RESOLVED, Associated Students would like to see Facilities Management test for rot on The Redwood and for this information to be publicly available to the University and to the Public, and be it

RESOLVED, Associated Students advises Facilities to wait at least until Fall semester of 2020 to make the final decision to remove the tree, in the case that the tree has not be absolutely determined to be a serious danger to surround buildings, itself, or any person, and be it

RESOLVED, Facilities should be advised a significant time before major construction dates on all decisions affecting plant life on campus alongside students, by any party heading capital projects, and be it


RESOLVED, Associated Students recommends to the University Space and Facilities Advisory Committee to adjourn the Landscape and Tree Advisory Committee to reconsider the original decision on removing the Redwood, in order to create a more direct democratic voice of the student body on campus landscape decisions, and be it

RESOLVED, That in the case the Redwood is to be removed, and subsequently any other tree that is absolutely necessary to be removed, Associated Students advises Facilities to coordinate with student groups, including the Forestry Club, on campus to reuse the tree for educative and/or creative value, and be it

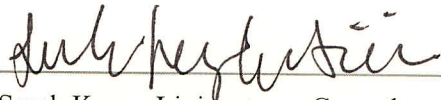
RESOLVED, Associated Students would want to see Facilities should make any and all landscaping decisions with sustainability and conservationist ideas as their foundation, and be it

RESOLVED, Associated Students recommends that Facilities set goals to preserve ninety percent of on campus trees, and a commitment to planting trees to replace trees that must be removed, and be it

RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution is to be submitted to but not limited to the University Senate, Facilities Jason Baugh, Project Contractors Thompson Builders, El Lenador, The LumberJack, University Resource and Planning Committee, University Space and Facilities Advisory Committee, TC Comet, Jeanne Rynne, Vice Presidents, the Provosts and President Lisa Rossbacher.

 04/29/19

Bernadette McConnel, Co-author date
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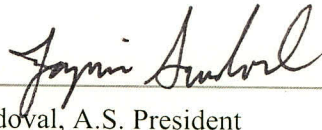
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Sarah Kanga Livingstone, Co-author date
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Paola Valdovinos, Chair

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Jazmin Sandoval, A.S. President

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date