



RESOLUTION No. 2020-21-03

**AUTHORED BY: Giovanni Guerrero, External Affairs Representative
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ADOPTED: July 13, 2020

**SUBJECT: In Support of the Creation of a One-Unit Academic Course Fulfilling
the F-1 Visa Requirements**

WHEREAS, the Associated Students (A.S.) Board of Directors of Humboldt State University (HSU) is the single recognized voice for over 6,500 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 students and the student body,” and to “stimulate the educational, social, physical, and cultural well-being of the university community”; and,

WHEREAS, on July 6th, 2020 the US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agency publicly released modifications the Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) exemptions for nonimmigrant students taking online classes for the Fall 2020 semester, and plans to publish the procedures and responsibilities in the Federal Register as a Temporary Final Rule ¹; and,

WHEREAS, the published Humboldt State University Mission Statement² establishes, “We welcome students from California and the world to our campus. We offer them access to affordable, high-quality education that is responsive to the needs of a fast-changing world. We serve them by providing a wide array of programs and activities that promote understanding of social, economic and environmental issues.”; and,

WHEREAS, the announced modifications by the US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agency unequivocally burdens international students attending Humboldt State University and other institutions of higher education in the United States to secure access to a course that will be offered in-person during an unprecedented time in which the global community is combatting COVID-19; and,

1

[DHS / ICE policy modification](#)

2

[Humboldt State University Mission Statement](#)

WHEREAS, Humboldt State University is a University belonging to the California State University (CSU) system which seeks to offer access to a quality higher education to over 487,000 students in the California State University (CSU), including the 16,222 international students within the California State University system; and,

WHEREAS, California State University Chancellor Timothy P. White announced on May 5th, 2020 that the 23 California State University campuses plan on offering courses for the Fall 2020 semester primarily in a virtual instructional format³; and,

WHEREAS, these modifications state that nonimmigrant F-1 and M-1 students attending schools operating entirely online, will not be allowed to take a fully online course load and remain living in the United States, as the US Department of State will refuse to issue visas to students enrolled in these fully online schools²; and,

WHEREAS, the Graduation Initiative 2025⁴ aims to graduate as many CSU students as possible, following this ruling would greatly detract from these efforts due to the disconnect from on-campus resources; and

WHEREAS, international students pay fees for on campus services such as; Materials, Services and Facilities Fee, Health Services Fee & Health Facilities Fee, Instructionally Related Activities Fee, and under the directives released by the Department of Homeland Security, access to such resources will be hindered and inaccessible; and,

WHEREAS, it should be noted that the admission application deadline for many other universities in the United States has since passed and California State University students will likely not have the opportunity to transfer to a different university in order to comply with ICE directives; and,

WHEREAS, the demand that international students leave the United States if they are not able to be in compliance with ICE directives in turn puts the health of international students at risk given that traveling during these unprecedented times in which the global community find itself in the midst of a pandemic exposes individuals to COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) states, “Healthcare systems are overwhelmed and there may be limited access to adequate medical care in affected areas. If you choose to travel internationally, your travel plans may be disrupted, and you may have to remain outside the United States for an indefinite length of time⁵”; and,

3

[CSU announcement on Fall 2020 virtuality](#)

4

[Graduation Initiative 2025](#)

5

[Travel: Frequently Asked Questions and Answers](#)

WHEREAS, the Pew Research Center establishes, “Most countries in the world have imposed partial or complete border closures to foreign nationals due to Coronavirus outbreak⁶”; and,

WHEREAS, requiring international students to leave the United States in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic would burden these students with undue stress in turn harming their financial, mental, and physical well-being; therefore, be it,

RESOLVED, that the Associated Students of Humboldt State University advocates for the creation of a one unit academic course to be taught in-person at Humboldt State University fulfilling the F-1 visa requirements; and be it further.

RESOLVED, Associated Students of Humboldt State advocates the creation of a system-wide policy for fulfilling the F-1 visa requirements; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that the Associated Students of Humboldt State advocates the Chancellor's office engages with the California State University system’s available legal resources to assess the legal flexibility the California State University system and to research legal precedence in order to challenge ICE’s orders in District Courts with the goal of preventing any deportations for California State University international students; and be it further,

RESOLVED, Associated Students of Humboldt State advocates that California State University Chancellor Timothy White mandate all 23 CSU campuses submit academic plans for the Fall 2020 academic semester that fulfill the F-1 visa requirements with the utmost urgency in order to ensure the access to education and the personal well-being of all California State University international students; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to, but not limited to each of the 23 CSU Presidents, Academic Senate Chair Robert Collins, Vice Chancellor Leovan Cleve, U.S. House Judiciary Committee, U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee, U.S. House Immigration and Border Security Subcommittee, U.S. Senate Border Security and Immigration Subcommittee, Senator Kamala Harris, Senator Diane Feinstein, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, Governor Gavin Newsom, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the office of California State University Chancellor Timothy P. White, the California State Student Association, the office of Humboldt State University President, Tom Jackson, Jr.; the office of Interim Dean of Students, Eboni Turnbow; Vice President of Enrollment Management, Jason L. Meriwether; the Interim Executive Director of the Office of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, Edelmira Reynoso; the Interim Associate Vice President of Student Success, Stephen St. Onge; The Lumberjack, as well as El Leñador