



A Resolution in Support of a Center for Latino/Hispanic Students

1 **WHEREAS,** the Associated Students Inc. (ASI) of California State University San Marcos
2 (CSUSM) is the official representative body, and the voice of CSUSM's more
3 than 10,200 students and is entrusted to represent the best interests of our
4 constituents; and

5 **WHEREAS,** it is the mission of ASI to educate students on issues that impact them, and
6 advocate for the student perspective to the appropriate parties, which include the -
7 University administration and faculty, government representatives and agencies
8 on the local, statewide and national levels; and

9 **WHEREAS,** in the Spring of 2010 the U.S. Department of Education designated CSUSM as a
10 Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI). HSI designation is awarded to institutions
11 having at least a 25 percent Hispanic student population. Currently 36 percent of
12 the students CSUSM serves identify as Hispanic/Latino¹; and

13
14 **WHEREAS,** a recent report by the Campaign for College Opportunity found that fewer than
15 half of Latinos graduate CSU within six years². Research demonstrates that
16 Latino students tend to face two critical tasks in their development during their
17 transition to college: handling racism and building community³; and

18 **WHEREAS,** the University's mission aims at providing a range of services that respond to the
19 needs of a student body with diverse backgrounds; and

20 **WHEREAS,** CSUSM has Memorandums of Understanding with nine school
21 districts/programs which include Fallbrook, San Marcos and Vista, all which have
22 high populations of Latino Students. This is aligned with the regional needs of
23 the community, which is once again part of the mission of CSUSM; and

24 **WHEREAS,** The San Francisco Gate reports that California is set to become the second
25 Latino-majority state in the nation, as the percentage of Latinos in the population
26 is expected to surpass that of non-Hispanic Whites by this March³. However,
27 only 11% of Latino adults have earned at least a bachelor's degree compared to
28 39% of Whites²; and

¹CSUSM Campus Facts http://www.collegeportraits.org/site_by_site/48

²The State of Latinos in Higher Education in CA Report 2014

³Latinos in Higher Education: Creating Student Success. Ortiz & Santos, 2009; V Torres & Hernandez, 2007

⁴Latinos in Higher Education: Creating Conditions for Student Success. Nunez, Hoover, Pickett et al, 2013

⁵Racial diversity matters: The impact of diversity-related student engagement and institutional context Bowman, 2009, Denson & Chang, 2009

⁶Diversity and higher education: Theory and impact on educational outcomes. Hurtado & Gurin, 2002. Smith 2010

29 **WHEREAS,** the creation of a center to support Latino students can facilitate Latino students
30 ability to build a sense of community, and enhance their sense of belonging and
31 engagement at CSUSM while also addressing other needs of Latino students³; and
32

33 **WHEREAS,** the creation of a center to support Latino students would provide all students with
34 more opportunities to develop their intercultural knowledge by providing a space
35 where Latino culture can be shared and explored; and
36

37 **WHEREAS,** research informs us that co-curricular resources such as a center for Latino
38 students can be key to promoting Latino success⁴ and can raise the quality of
39 informal social interactions across race ; and
40

41
42 **WHEREAS,** a report by the Campaign for College Opportunity concludes that the economic
43 security of California is tied directly to Latino college success², and research has
44 shown that University initiatives that promote diversity enhance
45 students' academic experience; therefore, when we improve Latino educational
46 outcomes in California, we all benefit; and

47 **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

48 **RESOLVED,** that the ASI of CSUSM supports the creation of a Center for Latino/Hispanic-
49 students through the Division of Student Affairs or Associated Students Inc; and
50 be it further

51 **RESOLVED,** that ASI of CSUSM will take an active role in advocating for higher education
52 and the students we serve through efforts that increase graduation and retention
53 rates; and be it further

54 **RESOLVED,** that the students of Cal State San Marcos take part in the planning stages, vision
55 and building of the mission statement for the Hispanic/Latino center; and be it
56 finally

57 **RESOLVED,** that copies of this resolution be distributed widely, including, but not limited to,
58 CSU Board of Trustees, CSU Chancellor Timothy White, CSUSM President
59 Karen Haynes, the Cougar Chronicle, CSUSM Office of Communication, the
60 CSUSM Alumni Association, and the San Diego Union Tribune.

¹CSUSM Campus Facts http://www.collegeportraits.org/side_by_side/48

²The State of Latinos in Higher Education in CA Report 2014

³Latinos in Higher Education: Creating Student Success. Ortiz & Santos, 2009; V Torres & Hernandez, 2007

⁴Latinos in Higher Education: Creating Conditions for Student Success. Nunez, Hoover, Pickett et al, 2013

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