

Safe Haven Resolution (Draft)

Whereas, the Academic Senates of Grossmont and Cuyamaca Colleges have the responsibility to work for the general welfare of the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District, its Students, Staff and Faculty;

Whereas, the President of the United States and his cabinet have promised to deport millions of immigrants and abolish the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival (DACA) program that provides relief from deportation for long-settled youth in the United States, which will break up families, devastate communities, and have lasting consequences on the civic vitality and economic growth of our city, region, state and nation;

Whereas, California has been at the forefront of sound policies centered on immigrant integration and state citizenship for undocumented people that have incorporated undocumented immigrants into our schools, workplaces, communities, civic life, and economy;

Whereas, in addition to the targeting of immigrants, in cities across the country, incidents of hate speech and hate crimes against muslims, minorities and LGBTQ citizens have increased since the presidential election of November, 2016;

Whereas, in the wake of the November 2016 election, both Grossmont's and Cuyamaca's presidents have reiterated the need to support our vulnerable and concerned students;

Whereas, "The Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District and the Grossmont and Cuyamaca Colleges are committed to providing access to education for all students and to offering a welcoming and safe environment for the diverse students we serve" (Chancellor Cindy Miles, District Email - "Honoring Our Democracy and Diversity," November 15, 2016);

Whereas, the California Community College Chancellor's Office has reassured students and colleges that our campuses will remain safe, welcoming places for students of all backgrounds to learn;

Whereas, Grossmont and Cuyamaca Colleges have committed themselves to outreach, engagement and retention of all of our students, and;

Whereas, our undocumented, immigrant, and refugee students, as well as our minority and LGBTQ students are expressing deep concern, uncertainty, fear and anxiety regarding their status, therefore;

Be it RESOLVED, that the Senates of Grossmont and Cuyamaca Colleges fully endorse the following principles and commitments regarding the protection of our diverse student body, which have been affirmed by the State of California, the California Community College System, and the Governing Board for Grossmont/Cuyamaca Community College District:

- Grossmont and Cuyamaca Colleges are open to all students who meet the minimum requirement for admission, regardless of background, culture, religion, or immigration status.
- Grossmont and Cuyamaca Community Colleges will not release any personally identifiable student information, including data related to immigration status, without a judicial warrant or court order unless authorized by the student or required by law.
- Grossmont and Cuyamaca Community Colleges will not cooperate with any federal effort to create a registry of individuals based on any protected characteristics such as religion, national origin, race, or sexual orientation.
- Grossmont and Cuyamaca Colleges stand proudly for the heritage of American community colleges as hallmarks of a diverse, engaged, and healthy democracy.

Be it also RESOLVED, that the Academic Senates of Grossmont and Cuyamaca Colleges, committ to the active support of our most vulnerable students in the following ways:

- Strong financial support for the expansion of our institutional capacity to serve undocumented, immigrant, refugee, minority, and LGBTQ students in the form of both services and scholarships.
- Ongoing and expanded offering of Professional Development designed to offer cultural competency training to all members of the college community.
- Partnering with regional agencies and government programs currently serving these populations to help develop sustained, rich and trusting relationships with diverse communities in our surrounding area.
- Faculty, staff, and administrative participation in events, trainings, and enrichment opportunities designed to help engender an open, trusting and safe environment for our students.