Las Positas College Academic Faculty Senate, Classified Senate, and Associated Students of Las Positas College (ASLPC)

Joint Resolution on Las Positas College as a Sanctuary Campus

WHEREAS Colleges and college districts have an obligation to provide all students with supportive learning environments free from fear, harassment, and discrimination; and

WHEREAS Las Positas College has stated that its mission is to respond to the educational and workforce development needs of our regional population; and

WHEREAS our campus empowers the underrepresented and underserved with respect to race, ethnicity, national origin, immigration status, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, ability, and all forms of marginalization; and

WHEREAS of 9,193 Las Positas College students, 4% are African-American, 5% are Filipino, 30% are Latino/a, and 1% are Pacific Islander; and

WHEREAS in 2015 Las Positas College became a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) and is projected to become a Minority Serving Institution (MSI) in the next few years; and

WHEREAS Las Positas College values, respects, and encourages cultural diversity in our curricula, programs, and services as well as diversity of ideas among our community of learners, teachers, and professionals; and

WHEREAS on February 22, 2017, the Las Positas College Academic Senate passed a resolution titled "Respect and Inclusivity at Las Positas College." In this resolution, the Las Positas College Academic Senate reaffirmed "its commitment to a diverse and inclusive campus respectful of students and employees of all ethnicities, religions, abilities, gender identities, sexual identities, racial identities, political viewpoints, and citizenships; resolved that as college faculty, we value teaching and modeling inclusivity and respect; resolved that as college faculty, we value promoting academic freedom and free speech; and resolved that as college faculty, we also value combatting prejudice and hate-speech in our classrooms and through our work as educators."

WHEREAS the Board of Governors of the California Community College system has resolved that all 114 community colleges in California remain safe and open to students, regardless of immigration status; the state Chancellor's office will not release any personally identifiable student information without a judicial warrant, subpoena, or court order; and the Board of Governors encourages community colleges to consider our system's values when responding to requests for information from government agencies; and

WHEREAS College Academic Faculty Senate, Classified Senate, and Associated Students of Las Positas College (ASLPC) agree with the Livermore Police Department's stated policy that they are committed to protecting and treating all individuals equally, without regard to race, color or national origin; the immigration status of individuals is not a matter for local police action, and they will not take enforcement actions on immigration offenses; and

WHEREAS students from immigrant backgrounds, communities of color, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) students, Muslims, women, and people with disabilities are increasingly the targets of hate speech, bullying, and threats incompatible with the inalienable rights of liberty and justice; and

WHEREAS some of our students have reason to fear for their safety based on proposed and enacted policies in the current political climate, such as detaining, deporting or revoking the study and travel privileges of the undocumented and immigrants from Muslim-majority and other countries, and revoking policies of inclusion for transgender individuals; and

WHEREAS many of our students are, or could be, affected by such policies and have legitimate fears for their security and their future; and

WHEREAS currently over 200 colleges and universities across the United States have petitioned to declare sanctuary; and

WHEREAS declaring Las Positas College a sanctuary campus sends a powerful message of support to community members that Las Positas College is an institution they can trust to provide safe spaces to learn and work free from harassment or intimidation; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Las Positas College Academic Faculty Senate, Classified Senate, and ASLPC call for Las Positas College to become a sanctuary campus and publicly **REAFFIRMS** our historical commitment to a safe learning environment and that all people—regardless of race, ethnicity, national origin, immigration status, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, and ability—should be free of discrimination, verbal or physical attacks; and

TO THIS END, the Las Positas Academic Faculty Senate, Classified Senate, and ASLPC strongly urge the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District Board of Trustees

- (a) To **<u>PUBLICLY DECLARE</u>** Las Positas College a sanctuary campus;
- (b) To <u>**REJECT**</u>
 - 1. Any use of a registry, surveillance, or monitoring based on any federally protected class such as religion, national origin, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability for non-educational purposes;
 - 2. Any call to detain, question, or arrest any individual solely based on suspected undocumented immigration status;

- Any call to voluntarily cooperate with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to seek out and deport students, faculty, staff and other community members without a judicial warrant, subpoena, or court order;
- 4. Any call to allow immigration agents access to campus without a judicial warrant, subpoena, or court order;
- 5. Any call to deny access to Las Positas College to students and community members based on immigration status;
- 6. Any call to release personally identifiable student information—including any data related to immigration status—without a judicial warrant, subpoena, or court order unless authorized by the student or required by law.

(c) To **TAKE ACTION** promoting the following recommendations:

- 1. Continue to advocate at the local, state, and federal level for educational opportunities for all students in our community regardless of immigration status.
- 2. Develop, adopt, and implement district and campus policies and protocols consistent with the values expressed herein, in the event that a public or law enforcement officer is expected to enter or has entered campus to execute any federal or legal order including immigration warrants.
- 3. Disseminate information and increase awareness of California Assembly Bill 21 and Senate Bill 54.
- 4. Ensure that all Las Positas faculty, classified professionals, students, and administrators, know and understand all state and federal laws, and district and campus policies relevant to protecting students and student information, including but not limited to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).
- 5. Communicate information about rights and protections afforded to students including but not limited to FERPA on an ongoing basis by way of an annual forum and other activities.
- 6. Continue to protect sensitive student information, such as that collected under the auspices of California Assembly Bill 540, the California Dream Act, and the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, by limiting access to student records and providing authorities with this information only when presented with a valid subpoena.
- 7. Continue to identify and promote scholarships that are open to all students regardless of citizenship or residency.
- Continue to promote an atmosphere of respect for all students and employees and denounce and address hate speech directed at students and/or employees.
- 9. Support community education and professional development to foster an inclusive environment focused on eliminating bias and discrimination and highlighting existing resources for reporting and responding to bias or hate incidents.

- 10. Secure support from all local, state, and federal elected officials for Las Positas College's efforts to protect students, faculty, and professionals.
- 11. Consider earmarking resources to allow Las Positas College to provide:
 - Mental health counseling to students and staff that is culturally sensitive of race, ethnicity, national origin, immigration status, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, or ability, including those who are undocumented, LGBTQ, Muslim, female, African American, Latino/a, Asian, and other affected groups;
 - b. Support for campus activities, speakers, events, faculty, staff, and student education on diversity, anti-bullying, and social justice activism;
 - c. Tuition assistance to students whose financial aid is impacted due to undocumented status;
 - d. The development of a multicultural resource center to support the student success of all groups regardless of race, ethnicity, national origin, immigration status, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, or ability.

Adopted by Las Positas Academic Faculty Senate: _____ Adopted by Las Positas Classified Senate: _____ Adopted by Associated Students of Las Positas College: