

Resolution in Support of Celebrating Indigenous Peoples' Day on the California State University Calendar
and Repudiating the Doctrine of Discovery

- Whereas, In 1937, the Knights of Columbus successfully lobbied for the creation of a new national holiday called Columbus Day; and
- Whereas, Since 1937, a commitment to raising awareness of Columbus' legacy makes the renaming of this holiday an important step in recognizing native and indigenous history; and
- Whereas, Indigenous Peoples' Day is part of an international movement to address the legacy of colonialism; and
- Whereas, Columbus, utilizing the Doctrine of Discovery, invaded and claimed ownership of lands in the Americas that had been "discovered" for Spain and the Catholic Church despite the millions of Native people already living here; and
- Whereas, Indigenous peoples continue to resist colonialism and continue to defend Indigenous sovereignty and traditional ways of life; and
- Whereas, In 1823, the Doctrine of Discovery was utilized by the U.S. Supreme Court to legalize further invasion and dispossession of Indigenous lands in *Johnson v. M'Intoch*, which remains the law of the land; and
- Whereas, Four states – Alaska, Minnesota, Oregon, and Vermont -- celebrate Indigenous Peoples' Day instead of Columbus Day, and South Dakota celebrates Native Americans' Day instead of Columbus Day; and
- Whereas, Over fifty cities across the United States, including Berkeley, Burbank, Long Beach, Los Angeles, San Francisco, San Fernando, San Luis Obispo, Santa Cruz, and Sebastopol celebrate Indigenous Peoples' Day instead of Columbus Day; and
- Whereas, Los Angeles County is home to over 150,000 people who identify as Native American or California Indian, and the State of California has over 700,000 Native Americans and California Indians; and
- Whereas, The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors has voted to observe Indigenous Peoples' Day and Italian American Heritage Day instead of Columbus Day starting in 2019; and
- Whereas, Cal Poly Pomona is located on the unceded territory of the Tongva, a Native American tribe recognized by the state of California and whose leaders are acknowledged by the California Native American Heritage Commission; and
- Whereas, The celebration of Columbus Day is an erasure of the histories of our Native and Indigenous students, faculty, and staff; and
- Whereas, The CSU Native American Initiative began in March 2006 to foster and support relationships between tribal communities and the California State University campuses and to develop programs that support Native American students; and
- Whereas, In 2014, the California Legislature adopted State Assembly Joint Resolution No. 42, which calls for "increased awareness, sensitivity, and respect for issues of sovereignty

related to heritage of Native Americans and indigenous peoples,” to express our state’s commitment to the principles of the United Nations Declarations of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; therefore, be it

- Resolved, That the Academic Senate of Cal Poly Pomona expresses its unified support for celebrating Indigenous Peoples’ Day and removing Columbus Day from the Calendar; and be it further
- Resolved, That the Academic Senate of Cal Poly Pomona repudiates the Doctrine of Discovery that validates the legal dispossession of land from Indigenous peoples; and be it further
- Resolved, That the Academic Senate of Cal Poly Pomona stands in solidarity with California Indians, Native Americans, and Indigenous people in urging our State and Federal Congressional representatives to draft and pass state and federal legislation to celebrate Indigenous Peoples’ Day and remove Columbus Day from the calendar; and be it further
- Resolved, That this resolution be distributed to the President of Cal Poly Pomona, CSU Chancellor, CSU Board of Trustees, Academic Senate of the CSU, CSU Campus Senate Chairs, California Faculty Association (CFA) Statewide President, CFA Cal Poly Pomona Chapter President, California State Student Association, ASI President of Cal Poly Pomona, California U.S. Senators, and Regional U.S. Congressional Representatives for Districts.

(Unanimously) adopted by the Academic Senate
of California State Polytechnic University,
Pomona on Wednesday, May 30, 2018

Julie Shen, Chair
Academic Senate