CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, POMONA ACADEMIC SENATE

Resolution - Campus Gun Safety

- WHEREAS, the tragic mass murder of 17 students and teachers and the wounding of 17 more at Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida on February 14, 2018, by a student gunman armed with a semi-automatic military grade rifle and multiple ammunition magazines raises serious concerns about the danger to student, staff, and faculty safety due to weapons on campus; and,
- the mass murder at Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School by an armed intruder is the latest in a long string of similar mass murders at educational institutions, including the well-publicized mass shootings at Sandy Hook Elementary School (December 14, 2012, 27 killed), Virginia Tech (April 16, 2007, 32 killed), and Columbine High School (April 20, 1999, 15 killed and 24 wounded) and the less-well publicized mass shootings at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (March 14, 2018, 3 killed), Central Michigan University (March 2, 2018, 2 killed), North Park Elementary School in San Bernardino, California (April 10, 2017, 3 killed), UCLA (June 1, 2016, 2 killed), Umpqua Community College in Roseburg, Oregon (October 1, 2015, 1 professor, 8 students, and the gunman killed), and Oikos University in Oakland, CA (April 2, 2012, 7 killed); and
- WHEREAS, CSU Chancellor White stated on March 1, 2018, about gun safety walkouts by high school students, "Peaceful participation in demonstrations will have no impact on applicants for admission to California State University campuses. As a university, we encourage the peaceful exchange of diverse viewpoints and are committed to free speech rights;" and
- WHEREAS, President Coley flew the university flags at half-mast in memory of the students and teachers killed at Stoneman Douglas High School, and in a March 5, 2018, video statement called these and similar gun tragedies both on- and off-school campus "simply unacceptable," and "encouraged all of us to reflect on how we can be the change, how we can nurture an environment in which all of our young people can thrive;" therefore be it
- RESOLVED, That the Cal Poly Pomona Academic Senate supports President Coley's call for students, administrators, staff, and students to reflect on how we can be the change that will promote a safe and nurturing environment at Cal Poly Pomona and throughout our communities that is free from gun violence; and be it further
- RESOLVED, That the Cal Poly Pomona Academic Senate also calls on President Coley and other appropriate administrators to exercise discretion and compassion in accommodating and supporting faculty, administrators, staff, and students who wish to participate in the April 20, 2018, walkouts, teach-ins, and other activities to commemorate the 19th anniversary of the Columbine High School massacre; and be it further
- RESOLVED, That the Cal Poly Pomona Academic Senate also calls on President Coley and other appropriate administrators to exercise discretion and compassion in accommodating and supporting faculty and students who wish to continue to include learning activities where appropriate and relevant that encourage them to reflect on how they can be the change that will promote greater gun safety and therefore more nurturing environments where all can thrive on our Cal Poly Pomona campus and in our communities; 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, California Congressional Representatives for Districts, the Governor of California, California State Legislators in the Senate, and California State Legislators in the Assembly.

Unanimously adopted by the Academic Senate of the California State Polytechnic University, Pomona on Wednesday, April 11, 2018.

Julie Shen, Chair Academic Senate