RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF INCREASED MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES &
THE EXPANSION OF THE CAMPUS HEALTH & WELLBEING CENTER

WHEREAS: The ASI Board of Directors serves as the official voice of over
20,000 students at California Polytechnic State University (Cal
Poly), and

WHEREAS: Cal Poly strives to enhance student success by providing “Learn by
Doing opportunities, delivering innovative student-centered
programs, encouraging personal growth, and empowering our
students within a safe, healthy, inclusive and supportive
environment”,1 and

WHEREAS: to holistically and effectively achieve Cal Poly’s goals of student
success, student mental health resources need to be an urgent
priority, and

WHEREAS: the 2014 Healthy Minds Study, a national study of which 4,000 Cal
Poly students participated, found that 21 percent of students are
experiencing moderate to major forms of depression and 34
percent of students have lifetime diagnoses of mental health
disorders,2 and

WHEREAS: 47 percent of students agree that “Most people would think less of
someone who has received Mental Health treatment” and 33
percent question how serious their needs are, limiting their
willingness to seek professional help,3 and

WHEREAS: the National Society of Mental Illness states that 40 percent of
students do not seek mental health services when they need it,4
and

WHEREAS: The International Association of Counseling Services states that
“Every effort should be made to maintain minimum staffing ratios
in the range of one F.T.E. [Full Time Equivalent] professional staff
member (excluding trainees) to every 1,000 to 1,500 students,
depending on services offered and other campus mental health
agencies”,5 and

1 “Student Success Fees.” Cal Poly Student Affairs. Student Affairs, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo.
5 “Staff to Student Ratios.” Statement Regarding Recommended Staff to Student Ratios. International Association of Counseling Services, Inc., n.d. Web.
WHEREAS: the Cal Poly Health and Counseling Center is currently funded by the health service, facility, and student success fees, yet Counseling Services still falls below the aforementioned student to clinician ratio standards, only employing 14.5 professional counselors of the minimum 20 that are recommended, and

WHEREAS: the current Campus Health & Wellbeing Center facility is unable to house additional clinicians, potentially hindering Counseling Service's attempts to increase support of student mental health and wellbeing, and

WHEREAS: the hours of operation and accessibility of Counseling Services and like resources are often deemed incompatible for students' academic and extracurricular schedules

THEREFORE
BE IT RESOLVED: the ASI Board of Directors formally supports students experiencing any and all forms of mental health and wellbeing struggles through active engagement and ally-ship with Counseling Services

FURTHERMORE
BE IT RESOLVED: the ASI Board of Directors encourages Cal Poly administrators and relevant groups to prioritize the expansion of the Campus Health & Wellbeing Center

FURTHERMORE
BE IT RESOLVED: Cal Poly takes financial ownership of the Campus Health & Wellbeing Center expansion

FURTHERMORE
BE IT RESOLVED: with the support of ASI Student Government, Campus Health & Wellbeing departments conduct focus groups consisting of a cross-section of students, faculty, and staff to assess the priorities of a new Campus Health & Wellbeing Center facility

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FURTHERMORE
BE IT
RESOLVED: these focus groups assess varying expenses for service and facility exploration to ensure that a new Campus Health & Wellbeing Center adequately supports the campus community without becoming a large financial burden on students

FURTHERMORE
BE IT
RESOLVED: the ASI Board of Directors recommends that alternative funds, such as donations or endowments, be used to satisfy best practice standards, to enhance the accessibility of Counseling Services beyond the typical workday, and to diversify the services offered to more thoroughly reflect the needs of students

FURTHERMORE
BE IT
RESOLVED: It is requested that a report summarizing the intent for funding the Campus Health & Wellbeing Center expansion be presented to the ASI Board of Directors before any financial decisions are finalized

FURTHERMORE
BE IT
RESOLVED: the ASI Board of Directors advocates for a consistent campus-wide effort to destigmatize the discussion surrounding emotional, physical, and mental wellbeing for students, faculty, and staff of all backgrounds

FURTHERMORE
BE IT
RESOLVED: this resolution will be sent to President Jeffrey Armstrong, Vice President Dr. Keith Humphrey, Dean of Students Dr. Kathleen McMahon, Executive Director of Campus Health & Wellbeing Dr. David Harris, Director of Counseling Services Dr. Geneva Reynaga-Abiko, Assistant Director of Community Prevention & Intervention Services Dr. Hannah Roberts, and Director of Wellbeing & Health Education Genie Kim, Executive Director of ASI Marcy Maloney, and to the Cal Poly Foundation
Certified as the true and correct copy, in witness thereof, I have set my hand and Seal of the San Luis Obispo Cal Poly Associated Students, Inc. this _____ day of __________, 2017.

Attest:
ASI Secretary

ADOPTED at the regular meeting of the Board of Directors at San Luis Obispo Cal Poly Associated Students, Inc. this _____ day of __________, 2017.

Signed:
ASI Chair of the Board

Signed:
ASI President

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