RESOLUTION CALLING FOR ACADEMIC SENATE, DEPARTMENTS, AND INSTRUCTORS TO CHANGE ATTENDANCE POLICIES AND MAKE ACCOMMODATIONS THEREIN FOR WINTER AND SPRING QUARTERS OF THE 2020-2021 YEAR

Whereas, The students at UC San Diego continue to feel the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in their home and academic lives; and

Whereas, Students are still responding to unexpected developments in their health or the health of their families; and

Whereas, The United States is seeing record-breaking numbers of COVID-19 cases that have once again initiated lockdowns and curfews in many parts of California, requiring students to readjust their personal and academic lives similar to how they adjusted to this shift in March 2020; and

Whereas, UC San Diego administration and faculty reached an agreement for the Fall 2020 quarter allowing for fully remote education that did not require students to return to San Diego County; and

Whereas, Students not living in San Diego County may need to take courses for graduation requirements, including requirements for a major, minor, or college requirements, that are currently scheduled as in-person classes with no accommodations, and do not have a feasible means to return to San Diego County on short notice; and

Whereas, Students living in different time zones will be particularly affected by requirements for synchronous attendance regardless of requirements for in-person attendance; and

Whereas, This disparity will have disproportionate impacts on international students, out-of-state students, first-generation college students, and low-income students;

Resolved, that the Associated Students of UC San Diego (ASUCSD) call for the Academic Senate to urge departments and faculty to exercise attendance policies for Winter Quarter 2021 similar to the practices that have been encouraged for Spring and Fall Quarters 2020, dissuading instructors from requiring in-person synchronous attendance; and
Resolved, that the Associated Students of UC San Diego (ASUCSD) join the six College Councils along with other student organizations in signing the Petition drafted by members of Associated Students to implement these policy changes; and

Resolved, that the Associated Students of UC San Diego (ASUCSD) call for the academic departments and individual instructors to take action, regardless of university-wide policy changes, to make accommodations for students enrolled in in-person synchronous courses and ensure that all courses offered under their purview have options for students who cannot attend in-person or who choose not to do so based on health or safety concerns; and

Resolved, that the Associated Students of UC San Diego (ASUCSD) call for these policy changes to be made for Spring Quarter as well in order to ensure that online asynchronous learning is available to students who are not able to attend class in San Diego for the remainder of the academic year; and

Resolved, that the Associated Students of UC San Diego (ASUCSD) encourage students to meet with their Academic Counselors to determine the best course of action for their academic career and graduation goals, and to contact their Department and instructors to encourage the adoption of the policies recommended herein.