

**Resolution of the Board of Trustees  
San Diego Community College District**

**The Board of Trustees of the San Diego Community College District Supports Academic Freedom.**

**WHEREAS**, the San Diego Community College District (SDCCD) is composed of a Board of Trustees, administration, faculty, and staff who support and value the District's mission of uplifting diverse individuals and communities through culturally affirming teaching, learning, and work environments; and

**WHEREAS**, the SDCCD's vision states that we create spaces where access, belonging, success, and the exchange of ideas and learning are paramount for our diverse community of students, faculty, and employees; and

**WHEREAS**, the SDCCD's Board Policy 4030 codifies the District's commitment to an academic environment that embraces the principles of academic freedom and freedom of expression. [...] based upon the value that free expression is essential to excellence in teaching, learning, critical inquiry and service to the community; and

**WHEREAS**, the SDCCD supports freedom of speech and expression as protected by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution and condemns any attempt by any federal, state, or local government entity or representative to restrict, discourage, or punish lawful expressions or speech; and

**WHEREAS**, the SDCCD has a proactive responsibility to ensure faculty members have the freedom to teach, research, and express their views within applicable policies and procedures without fear of censorship or retaliation; and

**WHEREAS**, the SDCCD has a proactive responsibility to ensure students and faculty have safe and inclusive environments where academic freedom and freedom of speech and expression occur without harassment or discrimination; and

**WHEREAS**, current political and federal government enforcement efforts to silence specific viewpoints and retaliate against individuals and organizations based on their exercise of free speech and expression necessitate public reaffirmation of the core principles of academic freedom, freedom of speech, and freedom of expression which allow students to be introduced to a diverse range of ideas that often contrast and even compete with each other within an academic framework and invites them to participate in a rigorous analysis and comparison of these ideas as a means of developing their own interpretations.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the SDCCD Board of Trustees supports academic freedom as essential component of higher education, allowing faculty and students to engage in scholarly inquiry, teaching, and learning without fear of censorship, intimidation, or undue interference.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the SDCCD Board of Trustees denounces any effort by any political or government entity or individual to threaten free speech and expression and academic freedom, retaliate against individuals exercising their right to free speech and expression, use immigration or other law enforcement to restrict speech and lawful protests, and to create an environment of fear and suppress free speech and expression.



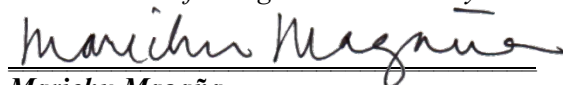
**Geysil Arroyo**  
President



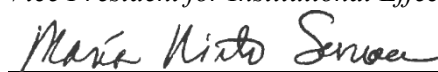
**Craig Milgrim**  
Executive Vice President



**Mariah Jameson**  
Vice President for Legislative Advocacy



**Marichu Magaña**  
Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness



**Maria Nieto Senour**  
Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

*Passed and adopted by the Board of Trustees of the  
San Diego Community College District in  
San Diego, California, this 15<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2025.*



**Gregory A. Smith**  
Chancellor

