A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING BURMESE STUDENTS AND THE PEOPLE OF MYANMAR

Primary Sponsors:

Co-Sponsors:

Supporting organizations:
The Burmese Student Association at UCLA

WHEREAS, the national elections have concluded and declared the ruling civilian party, the NLD, as the legitimate winners yet the military has refused to accept the outcome; and

WHEREAS, the Myanmar military (hereinafter referred to as the “Tatmadaw”) staged a coup against the civilian government on February 1, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Tatmadaw has declared a state of emergency and installed an interim President from their party for one year, neglecting the democratic will of the Burmese people, and threatening to erase years of hard earned progress in democratic reform that Myanmar has achieved; and

WHEREAS over 700 civilians, including children, have been murdered, over 4496 have been arrested since coup and over 3448 have been detained and/or sentenced by the Tatmadaw since the February coup; and

WHEREAS, the newly installed military government have closed banks and frozen financial transactions, leaving students and their families unable to access funds, and jeopardizing their ability to continue their studies across UC universities; and

WHEREAS, the newly installed military government have imposed a communication blackout cutting off internet connection among other means hindering the ability of students back there to view course material, complete assignment, or attend classes; and

WHEREAS, Burmese diaspora students in the United States face high levels of stress and anxiety due to the uncertainty of the current and future well-being of family members and/or people of Burma back home; and

WHEREAS, Burmese students in Burma face extreme country conditions, such as the threat of the Tatmadaw entering their homes and threat of being shot or arrested wherever they go, that complicate their ability to keep up with their studies; and
WHEREAS, Burmese students face an increasing frustration with the lack of public support of the Burmese people and its peaceful struggle for democracy from their respective academic institutions; and

WHEREAS, UC Los Angeles, has provided all the necessary academic, financial, and mental health relief and resources for its Burmese students; and

WHEREAS, UC Berkeley, notwithstanding requests by its Burmese student organization, has failed to provide accommodations for housing deadlines, P/NP leniency, and financial needs for Burmese students, including those in Burma; and

WHEREAS, UC Riverside, notwithstanding requests by its Burmese student organization, has failed to provide even a response, let alone arrangements to aid them; and

WHEREAS, UC Santa Barbara has yet to provide reassurances with regards to late tuition fees, which has caused its Burmese students anxiety as they may not be able to pay the necessary funds on time; and

WHEREAS, all the UC universities and the UC Board of Regents have failed to release a public statement to condemn the atrocities happening in Myanmar and support the Burmese people, including its students, and their peaceful struggle for democracy.

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, the UCSA condemns the military coup in Myanmar and asks all UC administrations and the UC Board of Regents, to do the same; and

FURTHER LET IT BE RESOLVED, the UCSA asks each UC administration and the UC Board of Regents, to release a public statement condemning the coup and standing in solidarity with the Burmese students; and

FURTHER LET IT BE RESOLVED, the UCSA calls on the UC Deans of Students to offer and continue offering support through these difficult times and actively facilitate the different accommodations Burmese students need with other departments and entities inside UC universities; and

FURTHER LET IT BE RESOLVED, the UCSA calls on each respective UC Academic Senate and Departments to provide support and academic accommodation to affected students including but not limited to deadline extensions, workload reduction, and incomplete letter grades; and

FURTHER LET IT BE RESOLVED, the UCSA calls on each Academic Senate to encourage departments to allow affected students flexibility with P/NP grading; and

FURTHER LET IT BE RESOLVED, the UCSA calls on the professors teaching the classes of the affected students to show empathy and patience; and
FURTHER LET IT BE RESOLVED, the UCSA calls on each campus Registrar Office to extend deadlines and refrain from placing financial holds caused by the inability of student paying fees due to evolving financial situation; and

FURTHER LET IT BE RESOLVED, the UCSA calls on the Emergency Crisis Response Teams at each UC university to provide the necessary support to affected student including financial resources; and

FURTHER LET IT BE RESOLVED, the UCSA calls Student Affairs and mental health resource centers at each UC universities to provide priority support to affected students; and

FINALLY LET IT BE RESOLVED, the UCSA reaffirms its support for Burmese students and asks other entities and departments and entities at each UC university to do so as well