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Response to President Morales letter regarding the distribution of FSD 20:21 "Resolution of No Confidence in Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs and Development Seval Yildirim"

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Academic Affairs
Faculty Senate

October 20, 2021

President Tomás D. Morales
Email: tmorales@csusb.edu

Dear President Morales:

This letter is in reply to your [September 28, 2021, letter](#) regarding the distribution of [FSD 20:21 "Resolution of No Confidence in Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs and Development Seval Yildirim"](#) approved by the Faculty Senate at its May 11, 2021, meeting. As you know, Article II, Section 1, of the Faculty Senate Constitution describes the membership of the Faculty Senate, and the President of the University is a member of the Faculty Senate.

The Faculty Senate defined the distribution of the resolution within the resolution itself and both authorized and demanded distribution by approving the resolution. The resolution belongs to and expresses the will of the Faculty Senate. Your letter of September 28, 2021, is addressed to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. Sending the letter to the Executive Committee is inappropriate because the resolution expresses the position of the Faculty Senate, not the Executive Committee. Addressing the letter to the Executive Committee is also odd since, as you know, Article III, Section 2A, of the Faculty Senate Constitution describes the membership of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, and the University President is a member.

According to Article II, Section 2, of the Faculty Senate Constitution, "the Faculty Senate shall be the delegate assembly of the Faculty through which the Faculty shall normally exercise its powers.... Any action taken by the Faculty Senate is subject to review by the Faculty and must be reviewed whenever the Faculty so requests by a petition of fifteen percent of its members. The Faculty by vote of a majority of its total membership may modify or nullify decisions of the Faculty Senate." More than four months (139 days) elapsed between approval of the resolution by the Faculty Senate and distribution of the resolution. To date, no petition has been initiated and no review of the approval of the resolution has been requested.

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The Senate was in receipt of and considered both the letter from the Provost and the letter from the President et al in advance of approving the resolution on May 11, 2021. For your convenience, you can reference the [agenda](#), [minutes](#), [presentation](#), and [recording](#) of the meeting on the Senate website. The letters from the [Provost](#) and [President et al](#) are also posted on the senate website with the [resolution](#).

Your letter inappropriately addressed to the Executive Committee from September 28, 2021, variously characterizes adopting the resolution as “a brazen disregard for the truth”, “lack of respect”, “unconscionable”, “unacceptable”, “this affront”, and “frankly a xenophobic reaction to... a Muslim woman... advocating for diversity, equity, and inclusion” but offers no evidence supporting any of these characterizations or allegations. It is both professionally and morally irresponsible to make unsupported allegations, especially against members of the campus community. Nonetheless, we welcome your invitation to work with you and the campus community to collaboratively and effectively advance DEI matters.

We look forward to working together as partners in honest acknowledgment and resolution of challenges and problems while reestablishing trust and confidence in each other.

Sincerely,

Faculty Members of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee