

Foothill Classified Senate Resolution in Response to the *Open Letter to Foothill College Governance*

Whereas in October 2020 Foothill College students wrote the *Open Letter to Foothill College Governance* ([link to student letter](#)) in order to clarify and expand on twelve demands;

Whereas the twelve demands in the student letter are motivated by ongoing violence and systemic racism against the Black community;

Whereas the twelve demands focus on student equity and make specific recommendations regarding Ethnic Studies, diversifying curriculum, mandatory training, faculty diversity, outreach to Black and African American students, supporting indigenous and native students and communities, mental health, basic needs, financial literacy, reimagining campus safety, observing Juneteenth, and student activism;

Whereas Foothill Classified Senate has received, read, and discussed the *Open Letter to Foothill College Governance* (henceforth called the *Student Letter*) with the authors;

Whereas the Mission of Foothill Classified Senate is “to work in partnership with faculty and administrators to provide students with the support needed to achieve excellent educational experiences and learning opportunities by promoting excellence in all aspects of support provided to the college community, and especially to staff” ([CS Constitution](#));

Whereas the Purpose of Foothill Classified Senate is “to participate in the governance structure of Foothill College; to actively collect, evaluate, and disseminate information for the classified staff; and to represent the collective interests of the classified staff before or on any governance, college or district committee” ([CS Constitution](#));

Whereas Foothill Classified Senate is organized, among other reasons, “to participate in the Foothill College governance structure” and “to provide a body representing the needs, concerns, and viewpoints of the classified staff” ([CS Constitution](#));

Whereas Foothill Classified Senate “may make recommendations and take action for the classified staff” and “may take official positions on the recommendations made to the college president” ([CS Constitution](#)); and

Whereas Foothill Classified Senate agrees with the twelve demands in the *Student Letter*; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that Foothill Classified Senate:

1. Views the health, well-being, safety, and success of Foothill students as its own health, well-being, safety, and success;
2. Commits to ongoing collaboration with Foothill’s students to remain informed about their experiences and demands;
3. Will formalize space on its agendas to discuss student equity issues to remain knowledgeable about ongoing student demands and to address those concerns in its meetings; and
4. Will prioritize the appointment of representatives to governance councils who are aware of student equity issues and resolve to use their voice and vote on campus governance councils and district committees to advance the students’ demands from the *Student Letter*, as well any future demands that may arise from Classified Senate’s collaboration with students.

