

1 **Senate Resolution**  
2 **Continuity Amid Disruption by COVID-19: Use of Student Ratings of**  
3 **Teaching and Mode of Instruction in Academic Year 2020/21**  
4

5 WHEREAS on June 8, 2020, the University announced plans to suspend face-to-face  
6 instruction for all but a few courses for the Fall 2020 term<sup>i</sup> with those plans subsequently  
7 approved by the CSU Chancellor Timothy White; and  
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9 WHEREAS the continued spread of COVID-19 throughout our surrounding cities, region  
10 and state<sup>ii</sup>, puts immense pressure on all members of the University community,  
11 including unique pressures on the institution's research, scholarship, and creative  
12 missions; and  
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14 WHEREAS the emergency conditions surrounding the pandemic create social and  
15 psychological stress on students and instructional faculty add to the difficulty of teaching  
16 and learning at a college-level; and  
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18 WHEREAS the rapid escalation of the world-wide health emergency has disrupted  
19 professional travel of faculty, forcing them unexpectedly to cancel attendance at  
20 professional conferences and meetings, to cancel presentations in and attendance of  
21 colloquia and seminars, and to cancel visits to sources of primary documents; and  
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23 WHEREAS feedback from students on courses is an important source of information for  
24 instructional faculty.  
25

26 BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that student ratings of teaching should be distributed  
27 at the end of each term in the 2020/21 academic year; and  
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29 BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that faculty be permitted without prejudice to choose to  
30 permanently exclude student ratings of teaching (SRT) from their Personnel Action Files  
31 (PAF) after seeing the evaluations, and on a course-by-course basis for the 2020/21  
32 academic year; and  
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34 BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that in order to ensure continuity of quality instruction, the  
35 Academic Senate suspends Senate Policy 14-14 and Senate Policy 12-08 to allow  
36 faculty the flexibility to support their students through alternative modes of instruction for  
37 the duration of the 2020/21 academic year; and  
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39 BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that to ensure the University's instructional enterprise hears  
40 student voices on the efforts made by instructional faculty to adjust instruction in these  
41 emergency circumstances, the Faculty Affairs Committee of the Academic Senate will  
42 design and distribute a survey to all enrolled students to elicit their feedback.  
43

44 If any resolution or part of a resolution in this document conflicts with or contradicts guidance on  
45 other University policies or procedures, these resolutions shall prevail without invalidating any  
46 other portion of the University policy or procedure. If any part of a resolution statement in this  
47 document conflicts with existing CSU policy, executive order, or coded memoranda, or if any  
48 resolution in this document conflicts with local, state, or federal statute, or the Collective  
49 Bargaining Agreement, that part of a resolution statement will be declared invalid without  
50 harming any other resolution statement in this document.

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<sup>i</sup> <https://www.csuci.edu/news/campus-updates/fall-2020/documents/csuci-fall-2020-plan-final-0731-update.pdf>

<sup>ii</sup> <https://www.latimes.com/projects/california-coronavirus-cases-tracking-outbreak/ventura-county/>