

RESOLUTION No. 2022-23-05

**AUTHORED BY: Gerardo Hernandez, At-Large Representative,
Ashley Calkins, External Affairs Representative,**

REFERRED TO: A.S. Board Of Directors

SECOND READING: 3/24/2023

SUBJECT: A Resolution For Increased Awareness, Advocacy, And Support For Housing Insecure Students

WHEREAS, the Associated Students (A.S.) Board of Directors of Cal Poly Humboldt is the single recognized voice for over 6,500 students;

WHEREAS, the Mission of the Associated Students of Cal Poly Humboldt serves to "assist in the protection of rights and interests of the individual student and the student body," and to "stimulate the educational, social, physical, and cultural well-being of the University community";

WHEREAS, in 2016, a CSU statewide study found that about one in ten students within the California State University's (CSU) system are experiencing homelessness¹;

WHEREAS, in 2018, a CSU statewide study commissioned by the California State University Chancellor's Office, found troubling rates of housing insecurity among CSU students. At Cal Poly Humboldt, 19 percent of students reported being housing insecure at least once in those last 12 months ²;

WHEREAS, the U.S. Census puts people living in poverty within the City Of Arcata at 34.7%, with an average median gross rent of \$1,169 from 2017-2021³;

WHEREAS, the City Of Arcata's recent 2022 Strategic Infill Redevelopment Program Community Engagement Report had many respondents noting inequities in housing. The City Of Arcata had specific respondents of Cal Poly Humboldt students and students of color as populations discriminated against when looking for housing⁴;

¹ <https://presspage-production-content.s3.amazonaws.com/uploads/1487/cohomelessstudy.pdf?10000>

² <https://now.humboldt.edu/news/an-unprecedented-look-at-csu-students-food-and-housing-insecurity>

³ <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/arcatacitycalifornia/HSG860221#HSG860221>

⁴ <https://arcataca.igm2.com/Citizens/FileOpen.aspx?Type=1&ID=3182&Inline=True>

WHEREAS, Cal Poly Humboldt recently announced they will offer the majority of their on-campus housing options to first-year students and new transfers, while accommodating other housing options, such as Comfort Inn, Super 8, Motel 6, College Creek and Creekview Apartments to returning students in the next academic year⁵;

WHEREAS, this latest development from Cal Poly Humboldt limits returning students opportunities to seek housing and creates new concerns of exacerbating housing insecurities towards the current student body. The movement towards these accommodations limits the ability for students to access the resources available to other students at similar cost;

WHEREAS, the A.S. Constitution states, “As Student Advocates We Shall: be vocal on issues that protect and increase student rights; create opportunities to increase the student perspective in the University decision making process; actively seek institutional changes that serve to enhance the student environment; and uphold and protect the integrity of the student body association”;

WHEREAS, there is a need to destigmatize the experience of students housing insecurities through increased advocacy, awareness, and humanization;

WHEREAS, every student at Cal Poly Humboldt deserves the dignity of stable, safe, and affordable housing, regardless of their socioeconomic status, now therefore, be it;

RESOLVED, cost of bridge-housing needs to be adjusted to account for the lessened conditions for continuing students;

RESOLVED, as a collective voice of the student body, the A.S. Board of Directors be consulted as an additional stakeholder on major decisions regarding future University Housing to discuss broad campus impact prior to adoption and implementation, a member of the A.S. Board of Directors be included in necessary housing meetings for the future. A.S. highlights our commitment to work alongside campus administration in regards to Housing;

RESOLVED, A.S. urges Cal Poly Humboldt administrators to prioritize accessibility, incentivization, and safety for the student body in their decisions towards housing options for returning students. UPD safety procedures for students need to be altered adequately to address the response time disparity between on campus and off campus housing students. Staff members at the off campus housing must be given authority to act in the best interest of the student during an active medical emergency;

⁵ <https://housing.humboldt.edu/cost-options/options>

RESOLVED, funding for bridge housing administrators needs to be comparable to the funding support that on campus housing administrators receive. Resources for bridge housing residents and staff should be equitable to that of on campus housing residents and staff.

RESOLVED, that electronic copies of this resolution are sent but not limited to President Tom Jackson, University Senate, Interim Dean of Students: Adrienne Colegrove-Raymond, Vice President of Enrollment Management and Student Success: Chrissy Holliday, Director of Housing Operations: Todd Larsen, Executive Director of Auxiliary Services: Stephen St. Onge, Director of Residence Life: Donyet King, The Lumberjack, and El Lenador.

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RESOLUTION No. 2022-23-06

First Reading: February 17, 2023

Second Reading: April 7, 2023

Passed *Date: 4/7/23*

Signed,

Gerardo Hernandez
At-Large Representative

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Juan Giovanni Guerrero
2022-2023 A.S. President

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