# Resolution of the SDSU University Senate: Support for Naming the SDSU Arts and Letters Building in Honor of SDSU Faculty Emeritus, Dr. Shirley Weber

Whereas: the SDSU African American Alumni Chapter (AAAC) requests the support of the University Senate and Administration for an initiative to honor SDSU Faculty Emeritus and California Secretary of State, Dr. Shirley Weber.

Whereas: the AAAC urge SDSU to initiate proceedings pursuant to *SDSU Facilities Naming Policies* renaming the Arts & Letters Building, on the Campus of San Diego State University in Honoring Dr. Weber.

Whereas: the AAAC also requests that SDSU support the renaming of the Arts & Letters Building using CSU Policy 15501.00, Naming of California State University Facilities and Properties, including the approval of subsection 500; the waiver, due to special circumstances, of all criteria herein.

Whereas: for more than 40 years, Dr. Weber was a dedicated San Diego University College Professor, International Lecturer, Co-founder of the Africana Studies Department in 1972; Department Chair for over 20 years, Former SDSU Senator, Former Member of all SDSU Standing Committees, Former Associate Faculty in Women's and Chicano Studies Departments, Former President National Council of Black Studies, Founder of the Honor Society for the National Council of Black Studies, current Professor Emeritus of Africana Studies Department. Recurrent SDSU Outstanding Faculty Award Winner, Creator of the Study Abroad Programs to Ghana and South Africa and Founder of the SDSU Black Baccalaureate; and

Whereas: Dr. Shirley Weber's contribution to the greater San Diego area as the champion of Education as a member of the San Diego School Board from 1988 – 1996. During her tenure there was an unprecedented number of new schools built in the inner city, the first nationally mandated parent involvement policy was approved and San Diego achieved the lowest dropout rate of any urban school district. During her tenure, there was an increase in SAT scores for all students and an increase in Minority and Women owned business that received contracts with the District; and

Whereas: Dr. Shirley Weber's commitment to be the voice for the marginalized and underprivileged she sat on numerous local and national boards and commissions. In 2012 she became the First Black person, south of Los Angeles, to be elected to the California State Assembly. She also was the First African American to Chair the Budget Committee in either legislative house and also served as Chair of the Legislative Black Caucus. For seven years she represented California on the Education Commission of the States and was elected its Vice President. She has received numerous outstanding Legislator Awards and in 2019 she was San Diego Union Tribune's "San Diegan of the Year;" and

Whereas: Dr. Shirley Weber's significant contribution as legislator. She has crafted and steered into law more than 70 pieces of legislation. Highlighted by AB 1460, Ethnic Studies Bill; AB 3121, Reparations Bill; AB 1506, Use of Deadly Force Bill; AB 392; CalFresh Restaurants Meals Program; AB 2298, Gang Database Designation Bill; and

Whereas: Dr. Shirley Weber was recently nominated by Governor Gavin Newson as the First African American and third Woman Secretary of State for the State of California; and

Therefore, be it resolved that the African American Alumni Chapter urge the SDSU University Senate, CSU Chancellor Joseph Castro, the CSU Chancellor's Office, the Academic Senate of the CSU, President de la Torre, the SDSU Administration and Auxiliaries, the SDSU Student Government, appropriate Senate and campus committees, and all members of the campus community to support and, where authorized and appropriate, to name the Arts and Letters Building after Dr. Shirley Weber.

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In consultation with: (Damita Myers-Miller, AAAC President, Donte Wyatt, AAAC MAL)

Recommended for approval by: Adisa A. Alkebulan, Ph.D.; Chair Africana Studies

Endorsed by:

#### **SDSU Alumni:**

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Christina Davis
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Daniel Walker
Darryl Lenore
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Donna Nelson

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Eric Mitchell
Erika Young
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Grace Brooks
Gwenn Church
Hayley Godfrey
Ike Williams
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Ivan Pitts
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Johnathan Adlam
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#### **SDSU Faculty:**

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Felicia Black

**Anthony Merritt** 

**Robert Fikes** 

Sesan Negash

Catherine Clune-Taylor

### **Local and Statewide Organizations:**

**ACLU San Diego** 

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc San Diego Chapter

Association of African American Educators (AAAE)

BAPAC, San Diego Chapter (Black American Political Association)

BWILD, Black Women Institute for Leadership Development

California Supervisors and Administrators of San Diego (CAAASA)

Delta Sigma Theta, San Diego Chapter

KIPP Charter School

**API Initiative** 

**National Black Contractors Association** 

National Council of Negro Women

National Organization of Black Elected Legislative Women (NOBEL)

National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Delta Upsilon Chapter

**Paving Great Futures** 

San Diego Democratic Party

Teach for America

Planned Parenthood of San Diego

Assembly Higher Education Committee

California Charter School Association

**Education Trust West** 

PICO (San Diego)

Teach Plus California

**UCLA Bunche Center** 

## **SDSU Students:**

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