

Associated Students of Fullerton College Resolution

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Vote: Unanimous

Resolution on institutionalizing land acknowledgments in Fullerton College.

WHEREAS: "Fullerton College is located on the unceded ancestral lands shared by the Gabrielino-Tongva Nation and the Juaneño Band of Mission Indians/Acjachemen Nation, who have been the traditional caretakers since time immemorial. Tongva and Acjachemen peoples maintain a strong presence in North Orange County and throughout Southern California, protecting their homelands, knowledge systems, and cultures for the next seven generations. We acknowledge the ingenuity, survival, resilience, and strength of their descendants and relatives—past, present, and emerging. We also acknowledge the labor of those who work on and care for these lands, both in the past and today, and all those who act in solidarity with Indigenous struggles." [1]

WHEREAS, recognizing the history of land occupation and its impact on Indigenous peoples is a crucial step towards acknowledging the mass genocide, assimilation, colonization, and forced removal that has taken place. [2] At Fullerton College, we understand the importance of recognizing our institution's ties to such histories, including its anti-Black and racist past that has been well-connected to the KKK. [3] In 2021, the Ethnic Studies Department established a land acknowledgment and ancestor libation as a model for other institutions to follow. [1] By building a culture of land acknowledgment, we can take meaningful steps toward progress and honor the experiences of those impacted by systemic oppression.

WHEREAS: Digital platforms offer an opportunity to reach broader audiences and amplify the voices of Indigenous communities in the acknowledgment of their ancestral land by recognizing Indigenous people's connection to the land, which has become increasingly crucial in virtual and physical spaces.

WHEREAS: Professors play a pivotal role in shaping students' understanding of history, culture, and the importance of acknowledging Indigenous land by incorporating a land acknowledgment into course syllabi it provides a consistent and meaningful opportunity for students to recognize the Indigenous peoples' presence and their enduring relationship with the land.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, Fullerton College commemorates the work and ingenuity Indigenous culture. Indigenous peoples have made invaluable contributions to our society,

including art, science, medicine, and more. Recognizing and celebrating their achievements is an important step towards promoting cultural understanding and respect.

RESOLVED, that Fullerton College commits to recognizing the history of land occupation and its profound impact on Indigenous peoples as an essential step towards acknowledging the mass genocide, assimilation, colonization, and forced removal that has occurred. Fullerton College acknowledges its institution's ties to such histories, including its anti-Black and racist past that has been linked to the Ku Klux Klan.

RESOLVED, that Fullerton College will incorporate digital land acknowledgment into all appropriate online events, engagements, and public forums to honor the Indigenous peoples and their enduring connection to the land, thereby promoting understanding, awareness, and respect for Indigenous cultures and histories in virtual and physical spaces. Embracing digital land acknowledgment reflects Fullerton College's dedication to adapting traditional practices to contemporary contexts and advancing the principles of equity and justice.

RESOLVED, that Fullerton College officially adopts the practice of land acknowledgment at all appropriate events, engagements, and public forums to recognize the Indigenous peoples and their enduring connection to the land.

RESOLVED, Associated Students of Fullerton College encourages faculty to include land acknowledgments in their syllabi.

RESOLVED, Fullerton College allocates funding to create a small plaque acknowledging that our institution stands on the Gabrielino-Tongva and Acjacheman land, to be placed in the quad or near the 200s building.

RESOLVED, that Fullerton College pledges to take meaningful action to address the legacies of colonization and promote equity, diversity, and inclusion for all members of our community, including Indigenous peoples.

Citation 1:

https://socsci.fullcoll.edu/ethnic-studies/acknowledgement/

Citation 2:

<u>Land Acknowledgement Statement | University of Texas Libraries | University of Texas at Austin (utexas.edu)</u>

Citation 3:

Guide-to-Land-Acknowledgement-October-2021.pdf (apacalifornia.org)