

1 [Supporting the Save City College of San Francisco Coalition]

2 **Resolution calling on the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors to honor the requests**
3 **and support the objectives of the Save City College of San Francisco Coalition**

4
5 WHEREAS, City College of San Francisco (CCSF) is one the largest community
6 colleges in the country, with a proud record of successfully helping students complete their
7 GEDs, preparing students to transfer to 4-year colleges, and graduating students in the fields
8 of food preparation, nursing, radiology, fire fighting, health education, and many more;¹ and

9 WHEREAS, CCSF is the largest community college in California, serving nearly 90,000
10 students,² and employing many Bay Area residents as instructors, faculty, and administrative
11 staff; and

12 WHEREAS, Since opening its doors in 1935, CCSF has played an active role in the
13 lives and educational achievements of Bay Area residents of all ages, ethnic, academic, and
14 socio-economic backgrounds, and plays a particularly vital role in providing high-quality,
15 affordable instruction to San Francisco's working class and immigrant communities of color;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, Including its main campus on Ocean Avenue in San Francisco's seventh
18 supervisorial district, CCSF currently has nine campuses, as well as other additional sites that
19 serve the diverse neighborhoods of San Francisco and demonstrate CCSF's investment in the
20 educational well being of *all* San Francisco residents; and

21 WHEREAS, California students are currently facing rising tuition costs and reductions
22 to in-state enrollment within the California State University and University of California

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¹ "Save CCSF." *Save CCSF We Are City College*. N.p., n.d. Web. 15 Mar. 2013.

25 <<http://www.saveccsf.org/>>.

² "City College of San Francisco." N.p. n.d. Web. 15 Mar. 2013 <<http://www.ccsf.edu/NEW/>>

1 systems, leaving many young people in San Francisco and throughout the state increasingly
2 dependent on the educational opportunities provided by community colleges;³ and

3 WHEREAS, CCSF educates a large number of students from the San Francisco
4 Unified School District; and

5 WHEREAS, In early July, 2012, the Accrediting Commission for Community and
6 Junior Colleges (ACCJC) released a devastating report that calls into question the future
7 viability of CCSF and demands that CCSF institute changes to address over a dozen major
8 structural issues;⁴ and

9 WHEREAS the ACCJC has placed CCSF's academic accreditation under threat
10 despite the fact that City College maintains a consistently high level of instructional quality;⁵
11 and

12 WHEREAS, the ACCJC's recommendations have focused on building the college's
13 financial reserves, restructuring its governance, and hiring more administrators, and these
14 recommendations will result in cuts to faculty and staff wages and benefits, cuts to classes,
15 and the consolidation of academic departments in such a way as will reduce the diversity of
16 programs and course offerings, especially courses like ethnic, women's, and LGBT studies;⁶
17 and

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19 ³ Asimov, Nanette. "Cal State to Close Door on Spring 2013 Enrollment." *SFGate*. SF Gate, 20 Mar.
20 2012. Web. 15 Mar. 2013.

21 ⁴ Koskey, Andrea. "City College of San Francisco Working to Keep Accreditation, Avoid Closure." *San*
22 *Francisco Examiner*. San Francisco Examiner, 10 July 2012. Web. 14 Mar. 2013.
<[http://www.sfexaminer.com/local/education/2012/07/city-college-san-francisco-working-keep-](http://www.sfexaminer.com/local/education/2012/07/city-college-san-francisco-working-keep-accreditation-avoid-closure)
23 accreditation-avoid-closure>.

24 ⁵ By the accrediting commission's own account, CCSF's instructional quality and commitment to its
25 mission were high. See the accrediting commission's report: *CCSF Evaluation Team Report May*
2012. ACCJC, n.d. Web. <[://www.accjc.org/wp-](http://www.accjc.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/07/CCSF_COMP_Eval_Team_Report_May_16_2012.pdf)
content/uploads/2012/07/CCSF_COMP_Eval_Team_Report_May_16_2012.pdf>.

26 ⁶ "Save CCSF." *Save CCSF*. N.p., n.d. Web. 15 Mar. 2013.<<http://www.saveccsf.org/>>
See also: Asimov, Nanette. "CCSF Activists Demand City Hall's Aid." *SFGate*. SF Gate, 15 Mar. 2003.
Web. 15 Mar. 2013

1 WHEREAS, members of the ACCJC maintain significant ties to for-profit educational
2 ventures⁷ and conduct their investigations and meetings in a non-transparent manner;⁸ and

3 WHEREAS, the state's for-profit post-secondary institutions with much lower
4 graduation and career success rates have not been sanctioned by the Western Association of
5 Schools and Colleges, ACCJC's parent organization, at a rate nearly commensurate with the
6 accelerated sanctioning of California's public colleges;⁹ and

7 WHEREAS, the ACCJC has placed 37% of California community colleges on sanctions
8 during a period of intense state budget cuts,¹⁰ and the commission has maintained its
9 sanctioning of the college following the passage of Proposition A, inhibiting the democratic
10 allocation of voter-approved supplemental funds; and

11 WHEREAS, the voters of San Francisco approved Proposition A to save City College
12 of San Francisco from budget threats and class cuts; and

13 WHEREAS, According to Alisa Messer, Faculty Union President at City College, Funds
14 from Prop A that were supposed to be used for programs, maintaining classes, preventing
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18 ⁷ According to an article by Josh Keller, "Accreditor of California Colleges Lacks Conflict of Interest
19 Protections, Federal Review Says," originally published in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, August
20 31, 2010. See also: Hittelman, Marty. "ACCJC Gone Wild." (n.d.): 3. Web.
<<http://www.saveccsf.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/ACCJC-Gone-Wild.pdf>>.

21 ⁸ Asimov, Nanette. "CCSF Activists Demand City Hall's Aid." *SFGate*. San Francisco Chronicle, 15
22 Mar. 2013. Web. 15 Mar. 2013. <[http://www.sfgate.com/education/article/CCSF-activists-demand-City-
23 Hall-s-aid-4356351.php](http://www.sfgate.com/education/article/CCSF-activists-demand-City-Hall-s-aid-4356351.php)>.

24 ⁹ "CSAC to Examine Impact of "Wild West" Online Degrees on Cal Grants." Press Release. *California
25 Student Aid Commission Press Advisory*. 14 Mar. 2012. And "What Is the ACCJC? Facts and
26 Analysis." Web. <[http://www.saveccsf.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/ACCJC-Facts-and-
27 Analysis.pdf](http://www.saveccsf.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/ACCJC-Facts-and-Analysis.pdf)>.

28 ¹⁰ The level of sanctioning was incongruent with national levels. Since 2011, ACCJC sanctions of
29 California community colleges represented 64% of college sanctions nationwide. See: Hittelman,
30 Marty. "ACCJC Gone Wild." (n.d.): 3. Web. <[http://www.saveccsf.org/wp-
31 content/uploads/2013/02/ACCJC-Gone-Wild.pdf](http://www.saveccsf.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/ACCJC-Gone-Wild.pdf)>.

1 layoffs, and offsetting state budget cuts are now being used to cover outstanding obligations
2 to retiree health benefits and build college financial reserves;¹¹ and

3 WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 1199 was introduced for the adoption of a stabilization
4 formula for making the calculations of a community college district's revenue level for each
5 fiscal year, providing for revenue adjustments if certain conditions are met, including that the
6 community college district or a campus is subject to a probation or a "show cause"
7 accreditation sanction and the district develops an improvement plan certified by the
8 Chancellor of the California Community Colleges;¹² and

9 WHEREAS, Supervisors Eric Mar and David Campos jointly sponsored a resolution in
10 support of AB 1199, which was adopted by the Board of Supervisors on March 12, 2013;¹³
11 and

12 WHEREAS, The Save CCSF Coalition, made up of students, faculty, staff, and the
13 community is responding to and questioning the legitimacy and nature of the sanctions placed
14 on City College of San Francisco and authority of the ACCJC to determine the use of voter-
15 approved Prop A funds; and

16 WHEREAS, The Save CCSF Coalition is imploring San Francisco elected officials to
17 meet the following objectives: 1) Use the power of your office to ensure that Prop A funds be
18 used as the voters intended: to reverse cuts to classes, services, staff, and faculty.¹⁴; 2)
19 Commit to filling any budget gap by advancing funds to CCSF. 3) Call on Sacramento to
20 reverse spending priorities (California is currently 49th in public education spending and 1st in

21 ¹¹ "The Guardsman Online." *Faculty Union President Alisa Messer on Accreditation, Salaries and Cuts*
22 *À*«. The Guardsman Online City College of San Francisco Online Newspaper, 6 Mar. 2013. Web. 14
23 Mar. 2013. [http://theguardman.com/faculty-union-president-alisa-messer-on-accreditation-salaries-
and-cuts/](http://theguardman.com/faculty-union-president-alisa-messer-on-accreditation-salaries-and-cuts/).

24 ¹² *AB-1199 Community Colleges: Funding*. Assembly Member Fong, 22 Feb. 2013. Web. 15 Mar.
2013. <http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201320140AB1199>.

25 ¹³ Board of Supervisors file no. 130237, accessed on March 15, 2013,
<http://www.sfbos.org/ftp/uploadedfiles/bdsupvrs/bosagendas/minutes/2013/m031213.pdf>

¹⁴ "Save CCSF." *Save CCSF*. N.p., n.d. Web. 15 Mar. 2013. <<http://www.saveccsf.org/>>

1 prison spending); 4) Call on the Department of Education to take immediate action to stop the
2 ACCJC's unjustified show cause sanction against CCSF; now, therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission supports the Save City
4 College of San Francisco Coalition and their objectives; and, be it further

5 RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Youth Commission supports the Board of
6 Supervisor's resolution in support of AB 1199; and, be it further

7 RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Youth Commission urges the Mayor and Board of
8 Supervisors to urge the CCSF administration to use Proposition A funds as intended by
9 voters; and, be it further

10 RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Youth Commission urges the Mayor and Board of
11 Supervisors to call on the Department of Education to stop the ACCJC's sanctioning of CCSF
12 and question the rate and nature of the sanctioning of California's community college system
13 in general; and, be it finally

14 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission encourages the Mayor and
15 Board of Supervisors to support the Save City College of San Francisco coalition and their
16 objectives, which recognize the right of all students to a quality and affordable public
17 education that provides lifelong learning, workplace and life skills, and cultural and personal
18 enrichment.

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22 Mia Shackelford, Chair

23 2012-2013 Youth Commission Chair

24 Adopted by Youth Commission March 18, 2013

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