

**University of California, Merced Graduate Student Association
Resolution in Support of the UC Board of Regents' Student Advisor Proposal**

WHEREAS, the UC Board of Regents is the governing body of the University of California¹;

WHEREAS, the UC Board of Regents is comprised of 26 voting members, 18 members appointed by the Governor of California serving 12-year terms, 7 ex-officio members representing the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Speaker of the State Assembly, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, President and Vice President of the Alumni Association of UC, and President of UC, and 1 Student Regent²;

WHEREAS, aside from the Student Regent position, students may actively engage with the Board of Regents through the positions of Student Observer, Student Advocate to the Regents (StARs), and Systemwide Committee Representative;

WHEREAS, not one of these additional opportunities for student representation is afforded voting power, the right to introduce policy or advocate policy at Board meetings, or the ability to develop long-term relationships with the Regents;

WHEREAS, the Student Regent is therefore the only student with the ability to contextualize conversations that ultimately shape the trajectory of decision-making by the UC Board of Regents;

WHEREAS, the Student Regent is currently tasked with representing the interests of all 246,000 undergraduate, graduate, and professional students of UC;

WHEREAS, students were instrumental in the establishment of the Student Regent position in 1975;

WHEREAS, the students of the University of California, Merced Graduate Student Association feel it is within their right to be afforded due representation in the governance model of the university system of which they are the greatest stakeholders;

WHEREAS, the Student Regent derives its power from the California State Constitution, and in recognition of the fact that the establishment an additional Student Regent to the Board of Regents with full voting rights would require a substantial amount of time and funds dedicated to a campaign to amend the California State Constitution;

LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the students of the University of California, Merced Graduate Student Association endorse the establishment of the Student Advisor to the UC Board of Regents;

¹ <http://regents.universityofcalifornia.edu/about/index.html>

² <http://regents.universityofcalifornia.edu/about/index.html>

LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Student Advisor shall be afforded rights and privileges similar to that of the Student Regent, with the exception of voting power and the one-year term;

LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the non-voting Student Advisor position shall offer students an additional means of representation on the Board which includes the power to speak at Board meetings and develop long-term relationships with the Regents;

LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Student Advisor shall provide an educational perspective complementary to that of the Student Regent so as to provide more holistic representation of the student experience to the Board of Regents;

LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Student Advisor selection process shall be led entirely by the students of the University, operating through the University of California Student Association (UCSA) and Council of Student Body Presidents, as well as the acting Student Regent;

LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Student Advisor position shall serve to further the end of the establishment of an additional Student Regent on the Board of Regents by means of a constitutional amendment;

LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Student Advisor position be formally established upon the vote of approval of a majority of the Board of Regents;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the students of the University of California, Merced Graduate Student Association instructs the Regents to approve the Student Advisor measure without delay and advises all students to voice their support in favor of said resolution.

Motion of approval carries 6-0-0.
October 13, 2015