

Student Academic Senate and Student Union Assembly Resolution Condemning the  
Termination of Director of Admissions

**WHEREAS**, during Summer 2017, the University of California, Santa Cruz former Director of Admissions Michael McCawley announced his intention to retire at the end of the 2017-2018 academic year;

**WHEREAS**, Director McCawley had worked for the UCSC Office of Admissions for 36 years;

**WHEREAS**, during his time as a Director at UCSC, McCawley had received the 2011 Outstanding Staff Award for “integrity, honesty, equity and fairness in his management style,” and was described by his former superior, Michelle Whittingham, as having had “...expertise [that went] beyond the campus to the entire UC system.”

**WHEREAS**, Director McCawley was dismissed from employment on October 27, 2017, approximately 8 months prior to the time McCawley was planning to retire;

**WHEREAS**, according to his account of his termination letter, McCawley was dismissed for his “...communication style, leadership and failing to support the goals of the campus”;

**WHEREAS**, Director McCawley speculates that his firing resulted from his public objections to demands from the University of California Office of the President, which would withhold \$50 million in funding to campuses of the University of California if they did not satisfy the 2:1 freshman-to-transfer enrollment ratio;

**WHEREAS**, Associate Vice Chancellor of Enrollment Management Michelle Whittingham and UCSC spokesman Scott Hernandez-Jason declined to comment on McCawley’s termination;

**WHEREAS**, with the precedent of Director McCawley’s conduct and performance and the lack of commentary from campus administration, the Student Academic Senate and Student Union Assembly, utilizing all available information, doubt the veracity of the reasons for his termination that were provided to him, as noted above;

**WHEREAS**, given the climate established by the growing tensions between the UC campuses, UC Office of the President and the state government, in particular with

regard to enrollment issues, the Student Academic Senate and Student Union Assembly firmly believe that Director McCawley was not terminated for just cause;

**WHEREAS**, it is abundantly clear that Director McCawley acted in what he judged were the best interests of the University and its student body and as a result, his dismissal was politically motivated by the UC Office of the President;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the UCSC Student Union Assembly and Student Academic Senate recognize the merit of Director McCawley's actions and integrity, and condemn the wrongful termination of Director McCawley;

**THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that the Student Union Assembly demands that Chancellor George Blumenthal, Executive Vice Chancellor Marlene Tromp, Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Education Richard Hughey and Associate Vice Chancellor of Enrollment Management Michelle Whittingham release a statement addressing the termination of Director Michael McCawley.