

## ELAC Senate Resolution in Affirmation of Faculty Support of Students and Employees

Whereas, the 2016 electoral season included divisive rhetoric targeted at women, LGBTQ people, persons with disabilities, Muslims and other religious minorities, immigrants, and people of color; and,

Whereas, in light of the results of the 2016 election, East Los Angeles College (ELAC) students and employees have expressed, in both public and private, confusion, anxiety, fear, concern for their physical safety and well-being, and concerns about their individual rights, all of which may negatively impact the achievement of their educational goals; and,

Whereas, the College's mission statement indicates that ELAC "empowers students to...successfully pursue their aspirations for a better future for themselves, their community, and the world";

Resolved, the ELAC Academic Senate reaffirms its commitment, as a representative body of the faculty, to fostering a diverse, inclusive, and safe learning environment for all students free from discrimination, bullying, harassment, and fear; and,

Resolved, the Academic Senate encourages faculty members to use the learning environment to show compassion and support for students who may be experiencing anxiety, uncertainty, and fear in the current political climate; and,

Resolved, the Academic Senate endorses the college's declaration that "**East Los Angeles College** has a long history of celebrating diversity, and recognizing civil and human rights are deeply rooted in the fabric of democratic and principled societies. Therefore, **East Los Angeles College** (both the Monterey Park and South Gate campuses) will continue to recognize the rights of all students and their families, regardless of ethnicity, family structure, religious beliefs, immigration status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status; and will serve as a safe environment and sanctuary for all students, staff, faculty and administrators."