

Condemning Antisemitism and Reaffirming Anti-Racism
Resolution 2023-01

Whereas, The Academic Senate is the organization whose primary function is to make recommendations with respect to academic and professional matters (Title 5, §53200) and is primarily relied upon for standards and policies regarding student success; and,

Whereas, The Mt. San Antonio College Board of Trustees approved of its revised Mission, Vision, and Core Values statement¹ at the September 14, 2022, Board Meeting, vowing to strive to be a “fully student-centered and welcoming campus that provides our diverse community an educational experience which is anti-racist, integrated, connected, and technologically advanced with unique and distinguished programs in an expansive and sustainable environment,” and further, adding anti-racism to its core values; and,

Whereas, In light of the recent string of hate crimes and proliferation of antisemitism, the Federal Bureau of Investigations Director Christopher Wray announced that “antisemitism remains a pervasive and present fact [...] Jewish people continue to face repeated violence and very real threats, from all kinds of actors, simply for being who they are,”² and further noting that 63% of all religious hate crimes are motivated by antisemitism, which runs in direct conflict with California Penal Codes §422.55³, §422.7⁴, and §422.75⁵; and,

Whereas, The Anti-Defamation League reported that in 2021, 2,717 antisemitic incidents throughout the United States were reported, a 34% increase from the 2,026 incidents in 2020⁶, and that this year alone, more than 1,463 incidents have been counted⁷, including a recent incident in Los Angeles County, where anti-Jewish protesters demonstrated over the 405 freeway⁸; therefore:

Resolved, The Mt. SAC Academic Senate condemns antisemitism and expresses support for the campus’s Jewish faculty, staff, and students, and affirms that antisemitism is racism; and,

Resolved, We call on the Board of Trustees, on behalf of the College, to acknowledge that antisemitism is racism, and take the bold action of specifically listing antisemitism as a form of racism that the College stands against, as outlined in its core value of anti-racism; and,

Resolved, We urge the College to provide additional trainings or opportunities for professional development specifically focused on eliminating antisemitism and educating the broader campus on inclusivity toward the Jewish community.

Contact: Raul Madrid Jr., Mt. SAC Academic Senate Legislative Liaison

Approved by Mt. SAC Academic Senate February 23, 2023.

¹ <https://www.mtsac.edu/about/mission-and-goals.html>

² <https://www.fbi.gov/news/speeches/director-wray-addresses-adl-never-is-now-summit-111022>

³ https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=PEN§ionNum=422.55.

⁴ <https://codes.findlaw.com/ca/penal-code/pen-sect-422-7.html>

⁵ <https://codes.findlaw.com/ca/penal-code/pen-sect-422-75.html>

⁶ <https://www.adl.org/audit2021>

⁷ <https://www.adl.org/resources/tools-to-track-hate/antisemitic-incidents>

⁸ <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/banner-kanye-right-los-angeles-freeway-antisemitic-group-rcna53653>