

Subject: Re: ***Need for speakers and letters re: Resolution at Foothill College
Date: Monday, March 11, 2024 at 3:00:43 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Martin Wasserman
To: Voltaire Villanueva
CC: sarita@hillelsv.org, Sheree Roth
Attachments: image001.png, AS RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING SUSTAINED PEACE AND SAFETY FOR ALL STUDENTS v4.pdf

This Message Is From an Untrusted Sender

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Dear Mr. Villanueva,

I received the message below and would be happy to send a statement to be read at the meeting. Here's an initial draft of my statement. Please let me know if there's a time limit on statements. I can make modifications if necessary.

"This resolution should be rejected because its based on false assumptions and outright lies. It accuses Israel of committing genocide in Gaza, which is a deliberate falsehood. The only party to the conflict that's calling for genocide is Hamas itself, whose official charter explicitly calls for the death of every Jew on Earth. In accusing Israel of genocide, they're using a standard propaganda technique widely used by both the Nazis and the Communists of accusing their enemies of the very crimes of which they themselves are guilty.

If there's a high civilian death toll in Gaza, it's because Hamas deliberately uses civilians as human shields. It's not surprising that Hamas holds the lives of its own people in such low regard, since Hamas culture explicitly defines itself as one that "loves death", which it contrasts with the Israeli culture that "loves life", which Hamas regards as a weakness that they can exploit. This is another reason why the two cultures can never coexist peacefully side by side.

The resolution also accuses Israel of an illegal occupation of Palestine, a nation that in fact does not exist and has never existed. Israel is the historic homeland of the Jewish people to which they have returned after a long exile. Jerusalem has never been the capital of any nation other than Israel. During the Jewish exile, the geographic region called "Palestine" was never an independent nation, but was always an impoverished backwater province of larger empires, which only became productive again upon the return of the Jews. The idea of Palestinians as a distinct people entitled to their own nation is a recent invention fabricated for the sole purpose of undermining the legitimate Jewish claim.

Because of its denial of the legitimacy of the State of Israel, and its support for Hamas' culture of death, and its false assumptions and outright lies, I urge you to reject this resolution, which can only serve to divide the student body, which appears to be precisely the aim of its supporters."

Sincerely yours,
Martin Wasserman

PS: If you'd like to discuss my statement, you can reach me at 408-505-1625 (cell)

On Mar 11, 2024, at 11:18 AM, Sheree Roth <ssroth29@gmail.com> wrote:

From: Sarita Bronstein
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2024 11:07 AM
Subject: Resolution at Foothill College

Friends,

On March 18, the Academic Senate at Foothill College will be voting on the attached resolution.

We need people to speak or send statements against the resolution to be read at the meeting.

They can reach out to Voltaire Villanueva, President of the Academic Senate, at villanuevavoltaire@fhda.edu

Thank you!

Sarita

Sarita Bronstein
Executive Director
Hillel of Silicon Valley
44 S 11th Street
San Jose, California 95112
W: (408) 775-7531 | sarita@hillelsv.org | www.hillelsv.org



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You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "Letter Team 2023" group. To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to letter-team-2023+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com.

To view this discussion on the web visit https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/letter-team-2023/CAKSLVHUN9XurDnAGTxjuUnACNd6ZiwmK9cyY_pBQT1eFzepVCQ%40mail.gmail.com.

For more options, visit <https://groups.google.com/d/optout>.

Subject: The facts are easy to access. Why are they being ignored?
Date: Monday, March 11, 2024 at 5:38:33 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Julia Lutch
To: Voltaire Villanueva

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Dear Academic Senate President Villanueva -

After listing many goals, the Foothill College Academic Senate states it believes that peaceful diplomacy is the only way to achieve these goals.

However, both Hamas and the PLO uncompromisingly reject peaceful diplomacy. Is the Foothill College Academic Senate not aware of this?

The PLO Charter states, in Article 9:

“Armed struggle is the only way to liberate Palestine. This it is the overall strategy, not merely a tactical phase.”

Article 21 advises that “The Arab Palestinian people, expressing themselves by the armed Palestinian revolution, reject all solutions which are substitutes for the total liberation of Palestine and reject all proposals aiming at the liquidation of the Palestinian problem, or its internationalization.”

The PLO’s foundational document clearly rejects peaceful diplomacy.

https://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/plcov.asp

In 2017, Hamas unveiled a 42-point Hamas Document of General Principles and Policies without explicitly revoking the 1988 charter.

From the 2017 42-point Hamas Document:

19. There shall be no recognition of the legitimacy of the Zionist entity. (No possibility for peaceful diplomacy here.)

20. Hamas rejects any alternative to the full and complete liberation of Palestine, from the river to the sea. (Again, Hamas rejects any peaceful diplomacy.)

27. A real state of Palestine is a state that has been liberated. There is no alternative to a fully sovereign Palestinian State on the entire national Palestinian soil, with Jerusalem as its capital. (Hamas is not interested in any peaceful diplomacy.)

<https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/hamas-2017-document-full>

The 1988 Hamas Charter, never explicitly revoked, offers these thoughts:

“Israel will exist and will continue to exist until Islam will obliterate it, just as it obliterated others before it” - see second paragraph of preamble.

The *Slogan of the Islamic Resistance Movement* is presented in Article Eight:

“Allah is its target, the Prophet is its model, the Koran its constitution: Jihad is its path and death for the sake of Allah is the loftiest of its wishes.”

Jihad and death are not synonymous with peaceful diplomacy.

Article Thirteen advises us that “Initiatives, and so-called peaceful solutions and international conferences, are in contradiction to the principles of the Islamic Resistance Movement...”

There is no solution for the Palestinian question except through Jihad. Initiatives, proposals and international conferences are all a waste of time and vain endeavors.”

Not a lot of room there for peaceful diplomacy.

The Foothill College Academic Senate has curiously offered an opinion not based on what Hamas and the PLO have told us are their foundational principles.

When someone or some group tells you who they are, it is of the utmost importance that you believe them.

Julia Lutch
530-756-5209
43577 Almond Lane
Davis, CA 95718

Sent from my iPhone

Subject: Foothill AS resolution
Date: Tuesday, March 12, 2024 at 6:43:46 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Yoram Arnon
To: Voltaire Villanueva
Attachments: image.png

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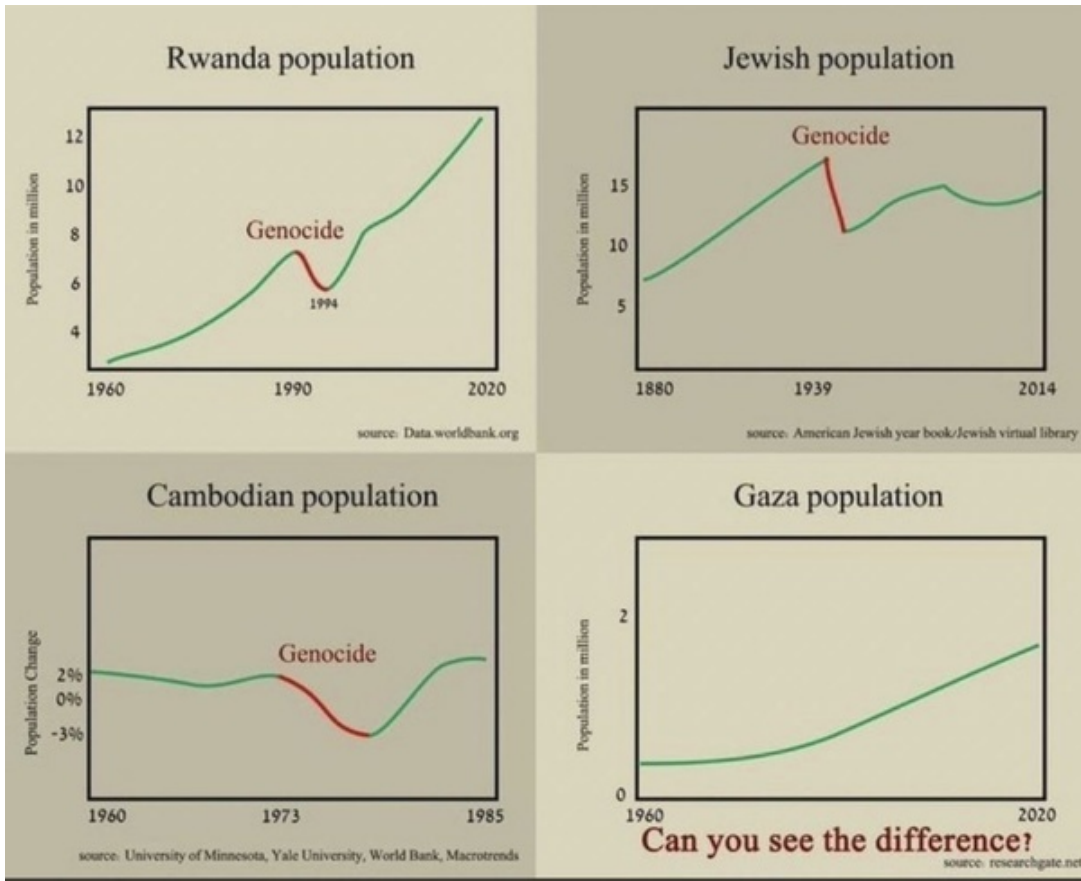
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Dear AS President Voltaire,

I was shocked to read the draft of the "Resolution recognizing sustained peace and safety for all students", and implore you to block its passage.

The resolution is flawed in so many ways, it can only be read as propaganda. Presumably it is not a text you wrote yourself, but rather received it from an external and biased source, please allow me to point out a subset of the inaccuracies and falsehoods it contains. While asserting a commitment to create inclusive and just conditions for all students staff etc., the resolution will do the opposite, and while claiming to ensure all communities feel respected and heard, let me assure you firsthand that I feel disrespected, and while claiming to combat antisemitism, the resolution actively contributes to it. Publishing the resolution in its current form would be a terrible and divisive decision.

1. There is hardly any mention of the brutal attack of October 7 by Hamas, the official government of Gaza, which resulted in the death of over 1200 people, some of which were tortured, dismembered, sexually assaulted, burned alive, executed in front of their family and other forms of barbaric torments unseen since the dark ages, and over 200 people were abducted. There are still over 100 people held hostage, and by the testimony of hostages that were released, those who are still there have suffered, and are still suffering from all manners of abuse, including sexual. Hamas refuses to release the hostages, and even refuses them access to the Red Cross. The resolution looks at Israel's reaction without any meaningful description of the cause, which is misleading at best.
2. The document mentions hundreds of lives lost in Israel, when the number is over 1500 now, and "over tens of thousands" in Gaza, when the number is around 30000 now. How is 1500 "hundreds" while 30000 is "over tens of thousands"? I'm not being nitpicky, I don't believe for a second this is an innocent typo, I'm pointing out the intentional bias of this document, written no doubt by someone with a deeply rooted bias against Israel.
3. Zionism, despite what antisemites would have you believe, is just the quest and right of the Jewish people for a land of their own, in Judea, their homeland. There are dozens of countries that are explicitly Muslim, and dozens that are explicitly Christian, but only one that is Jewish. Jews lived in exile for 2000 years, where they suffered forced religious conversion, torture, murder, rape, disenfranchisement, degradation and discrimination, because they did not have a country to provide them a safe haven. Why would you believe that Jews are alone among peoples of the world that don't deserve self determination? Those that tell you it's not a form of antisemitism are acting out their political agenda.
4. The document mentions the displaced people of Gaza, but makes absolutely no mention of the hundreds of thousands of people displaced in Israel, including children, whose homes are not safe due to the war instigated by Hamas, nor the tens of thousands displaced by the war with Lebanon. You completely ignore that Israel is fighting a war on two fronts, since Hezbollah started a second front as soon as Hamas launched its attack. There's complete ignorance of the "detail" that both Hamas and Hezbollah (and the Houthis of Yemen) are proxies of Iran, and that Israel is fighting for its survival against all three.
5. There is absolutely no call for Hamas to stop the fighting, no mention of the ceasefire deal on the table that Hamas is rejecting, no blame whatsoever on the offender, only on the victim.
6. There is a by-the-way mention of "the ongoing genocide". That's just appalling. For your reference, here's what genocide does and doesn't look like.



Since the start of the war, the Palestinian population has been growing, and at a faster rate than that of western countries. More babies were born in Gaza in 2023 than people died, and the same is and will be true of 2024. The fact that such a loaded word is used so offhandedly is more evidence of the bias of the original author.

7. There is a reference to Amnesty International's article about the ICJ ruling. Amnesty is a political organization, and its article goes significantly beyond the ICJ ruling. Quoting the article rather than the ruling is another form of bias. The ruling said nothing beyond the location in the text of footnote 16.

The above list is just a subset of the more egregious falsehoods. I hope they serve as a reference for you to review the entire text of the resolution as biased and divisive, meant to draw Foothill College into an unwanted conflict by politically motivated sources.

Respectfully,
Yoram Arnon

Subject: Students United for Ceasefire and Education in Gaza
Date: Tuesday, March 12, 2024 at 9:14:06 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Nicole Nguyen
To: Voltaire Villanueva

Academic Senate President Voltaire,

I am writing to urge your support for the Foothill College Academic Senate's resolution calling for an immediate and permanent humanitarian ceasefire in Gaza. As a student committed to social justice and human rights, I speak to the importance of raising our voices against the ongoing violence and suffering inflicted upon innocent Palestinian civilians, particularly children.

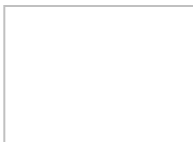
The resolution paints a stark picture of the devastating consequences of the conflict, with tens of thousands of civilian lives lost, including over 9,600 Palestinian children. Hundreds of educational institutions have been destroyed or damaged, leaving 625,000 children out of school and depriving them of their fundamental right to education. These figures are not mere statistics; they represent a crisis of immense human suffering and the erosion of hope for an entire generation.

We cannot stand idly by as this tragedy unfolds. As learners and educators, we understand how education is a powerful tool for breaking cycles of violence and fostering understanding, and we must ensure that every child has access to this fundamental right. By supporting this resolution, we can amplify the call for a ceasefire and the safe passage of humanitarian aid to the Palestinian people. We can demand that our tax dollars be invested in education and humanitarian aid efforts rather than fueling further conflict and destruction.

The passionate activism of students like me has driven many historic social justice movements. As the Vice-President of the Social Justice Club, we released a Solidarity Statement back in November. Now is the time to add our voices to this call for peace, justice, and the preservation of human dignity.

I urge deep support for the Foothill College Academic Senate's resolution and advocate for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza. Together, we can be a force for positive change and contribute to a future where every child can grow and thrive in safety, free from the scars of war and displacement.

--



Nicole Nguyen

Student Trustee,

Associated Students of Foothill College (ASFC)

Foothill-DeAnza Community College District

California Community College Trustees Board (CCCT)

12345 El Monte Rd, Los Altos Hills, CA 94022

- asfc.nicolen@gmail.com

Subject: Biased, Divisive Resolution Would Worsen Antisemitism on Campus - Please Reject It!

Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 10:58:09 AM Pacific Daylight Time

From: Hannah thomson

To: Voltaire Villanueva

CC: Kristina Whalen, Laurie Scolari, Stacy Gleixner, Kurt Hueg, Teresa Ong, Ajani Byrd, Carla Maitland

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Dear Voltaire Villanueva,

I was shocked and saddened by the twisting of facts and anti-Israel bias in the Resolution Recognizing Sustained Peace and Safety for all Students that the Faculty Senate is considering. The Academic Senate claims to be committed to creating “inclusive and just conditions” and “supporting all members” of the community, but this one-sided resolution smears Israel and will worsen antisemitic hostility and divisions on campus.

The fundamental premise underlying this resolution, that “Zionism is a political ideology that can be critiqued, as all political ideologies under any system of government can be critiqued,” is wrong. In 1900 Zionism was a political ideology that called for the re-establishment of a Jewish state in the Jewish homeland. In 2024, Israel exists. Anti-Zionism is the call to eradicate it, killing or displacing half the world’s Jewish population. This would be a tragedy on the scale of the Holocaust - and since you mention “complex histories and intergenerational impact,” it might behoove you to remember that the world’s Jewish population still has not rebounded to pre-Holocaust levels. (Despite the use of the very loaded term “genocide,” which the International Court of Justice determined Israel is NOT committing, the Palestinian population has grown exponentially since 1948.)

Furthermore, while it’s clear the resolution targets Israel with its denunciation of ethnonationalism, the writers seem unaware that Israel is the most ethnically, religiously, and culturally diverse country in the Middle East, and is surrounded by countries that are exclusively Arab. Over 20% of Israelis are Arab Muslims, with full citizenship rights to vote, run for office, work, etc. Your students might benefit from following Bassem Eid and Yoseph Haddad on social media. Conversely, most Jewish Israelis are the descendants of refugees from the Muslim Middle East, including Yemen, Syria, Iraq, Lebanon and Morocco, where they lived as second class citizens and were subject to pogroms. The Ethiopian Jewish community always laughs at the suggestion that Israelis practice “apartheid” or racism, because most Israelis simply aren’t white. If you truly decry ethnonationalism, perhaps you should focus your ire on Gaza, where Jews were removed by force by the Israeli Army in 2005 and now live only as hostages of Hamas. Or perhaps you should look to Yemen, where the chant “A Curse Upon the Jews!” is a common refrain.

This resolution takes casualty figures directly from Hamas but fails to mention it is internationally recognized as a terrorist organization, offers no context for the destruction of buildings like schools (do you think it’s irrelevant that multiple UNRWA teachers were implicated in the terrorist attacks, and that these “civilian” buildings were being used to hide terror tunnels, launch missiles, and store hostages?), and uses loaded words like “occupation,” and “ongoing genocide” as though they are factual rather than clear attempts to steer the narrative that Israel is the villain.

Given DeAnza’s treatment of Tabia Lee, who was pushed out of her DEI job and called a “dirty Zionist” for daring to try to educate students about antisemitism, I have little expectation that this resolution was written in good faith. I hope you will prove me wrong. Reject this biased, divisive resolution.

Sincerely,
Hannah Thomson
#Mothers Against College Antisemitism

Subject: Individual comment about a resolution on the Israel Gaza conflict
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 11:00:50 AM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Revi Goldsher Sagee
To: Voltaire Villanueva

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I am a citizen of the nearby city of San Jose. All around us (San Jose, Palo Alto, Los Gatos, San Francisco, Santa Clara) there is tremendous pressure on Cities, Counties, Universities, Colleges, and Unions by pro-Palestinians for ceasefire resolutions.

These resolutions cause sadness, pain, and division among local communities and provide no benefit to the conflict in the middle east. Not because cease fire is a bad thing. But cease fire is not a call for peace! It is a call for a terrorist organization to continue attacking Israelis unprovoked, then all Jews, then all western civilization, and democracy.

Please look up your resources. Israel withdrew from Gaza 20 years ago. There is no more occupation. Now Hamas is controlling the innocent people in Gaza, terrorizing them, making them believe that killing is ok, taking all funds and aid to themselves. Teaching them to terrorize, rape, and mutilate, and drugging them to be able to do such unthinkable actions.

If you stand by your desire for peace, resolve that Hamas will stop its killings, will stop educating for hate, fear and anger, that Hamas will provide the billions of dollars it receives to the people of Gaza instead of to Hamas leaders.

Lead by example and don't give in to hateful events and resolutions. Don't teach students to be angry, afraid and hate. You are responsible to educate for love and inclusion of all your students.

Don't be pressured into taking an Israel or Palestinian side in this war, as it's a war against terror. Don't be pressured to pass any resolution on an international highly complex issue.

For more information, please listen to the Mayor of Orland Park in Illinois clearly summarizing the history at the end of a long City Council meeting.

<https://t.co/ykbiCmvRYv> <https://t.co/b1wsJWAWfG> / X (twitter.com)

Thank you,
Revi Sagee

Subject: Please vote NO on inflammatory Israel Hamas War resolutions
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 2:12:13 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Jason Feinsmith
To: Voltaire Villanueva, Patrick Ahrens, Laura Casas, Pearl Cheng, Peter Landsberger, Gilbert Wong, De Anza Student Trustee

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Dear President Villanueva and esteemed members of the Foothill Academic Senate,

As a local community member, I wish to voice my opposition to the resolution on the Israel-Hamas War that will go up for a vote at Monday's Academic Senate meeting.

It is not the place or the purview of the Academic Senate to issue resolutions on complex geopolitical issues. These resolutions only serve to create division, encourage hate speech, and foster unsafe environments for all.

Furthermore, the resolution entitled "Resolution Recognizing Sustained Peace and Safety for All Students" does not address the concerns of Jewish students. Indicating that the resolution was not in fact drafted on behalf of all students. Any resolution, if one must be passed, should name and condemn the brutal attacks committed by Hamas on October 7. This was the deadliest single day for the global Jewish community since the Holocaust. Hamas is a terrorist organization whose charter clearly states its commitment to kill Jews and annihilate Israel and the leaders of Hamas have publicly stated their intent to seek to repeat the bloodletting.

Additionally, the resolution provides a one-sided and unbalanced assessment of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Worse, it doesn't even mention the Israeli community as an important and equal part of the Foothill College community.

Instead of amplifying hate and division, we urge you to lead with empathy and ensure all students, families, faculty, and staff of Foothill College feel supported and welcomed. The ongoing war between Israel and Hamas has impacted so many members of our community, and non-binding resolutions will not bring peace. During times of crisis, elected leaders must work to bring people together – not tear us apart.

Sincerely
Jason Feinsmith
Community college parent
Sunnyvale, CA

Subject: Vote NO on inflammatory resolutions about the Israel Hamas War
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 2:15:19 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Idit Kostl
To: Voltaire Villanueva, Patrick Ahrens, Laura Casas, Pearl Cheng, Peter Landsberger, Gilbert Wong, De Anza Student Trustee

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Thank you,
Idit Kostl, PhD

Subject: Vote NO on inflammatory resolutions about the Israel Hamas War
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 2:17:50 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Ido Josef
To: Voltaire Villanueva, Patrick Ahrens, Laura Casas, Pearl Cheng, Peter Landsberger, Gilbert Wong, De Anza Student Trustee

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Best,
Ido Josef.

Subject: Vote NO on inflammatory resolutions about the Israel Hamas War
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 2:20:55 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Simona Tsives
To: Voltaire Villanueva, Patrick Ahrens, Laura Casas, Pearl Cheng, Peter Landsberger, Gilbert Wong, De Anza Student Trustee

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Dear President Villanueva and esteemed members of the Foothill Academic Senate,

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Regards
Simona

Subject: Vote NO on inflammatory resolutions about the Israel Hamas War
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 2:21:05 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Hanoch Raviv
To: Patrick Ahrens, Laura Casas, Pearl Cheng, De Anza Student Trustee, Peter Landsberger, Voltaire Villanueva, Gilbert Wong

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Hanoch Raviv

Subject: Vote NO on inflammatory resolutions about the Israel Hamas War
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 2:25:26 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Ronny Kaynan
To: Voltaire Villanueva, Patrick Ahrens, Laura Casas, Pearl Cheng, Peter Landsberger, Gilbert Wong, De Anza Student Trustee

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Thanks,
Ronny

Subject: Vote NO on inflammatory resolutions about the Israel Hamas War
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 2:26:22 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Donna Griffit
To: Voltaire Villanueva, Patrick Ahrens, Laura Casas, Pearl Cheng, Peter Landsberger, Gilbert Wong, De Anza Student Trustee

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Additionally, the resolution provides a one-sided and unbalanced assessment of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Worse, it doesn't even mention the Israeli community as an important and equal part of the Foothill College community.

Instead of amplifying hate and division, we urge you to lead with empathy and ensure all students, families, faculty, and staff of Foothill College feel supported and welcomed. The ongoing war between Israel and Hamas has impacted so many members of our community, and non-binding resolutions will not bring peace. During times of crisis, elected leaders must work to bring people together – not tear us apart.

Thank you,

Donna Griffit
Palo Alto CA

Subject: RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING SUSTAINED PEACE AND SAFETY FOR ALL STUDENTS
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 2:45:44 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Nadav Kanarik
To: Voltaire Villanueva
Attachments: image.png

This Message Is From an Untrusted Sender

You have not previously corresponded with this sender.

Hi,

I'm a long time Los Altos resident and have a daughter who takes a class from FHC. I chose to live in Los Altos because of its diversity and the close sense of community the town has to offer.

I was recently made aware of the proposed "RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING SUSTAINED PEACE AND SAFETY FOR ALL STUDENTS" and I am extremely disturbed from the language being used.

While the intent is noble, I strongly disagree that the current verbiage supports it. On the contrary, I believe the current language is biased will achieve the opposite:

1. Further dividing the community / students.
2. Will create an unsafe educational environment for Jewish students, similar to what's happening at universities like Berkley, Harvard, etc.

Let me address 3 items for example:

1. **Genocide:** I believe majority of people believe that what's going on in Israel and Gaza is a tragedy, but let's separate between tragedy and genocide. Note that the "Hague International Court of Justice" didn't agree that what's happening in Gaza is a genocide. In a nutshell genocide is "the deliberate killing of a large number of people from a particular nation or ethnic group with the aim of destroying that nation or group", while the large # is not fully defined and can be subjective, the intent (i.e. aim of destroying) is the most important criterion. It's very apparent that Israel has no intention to wipe out the Palestinian (there are more than 2 million Palestinians in Gaza and IDF is trying to limit as much as possible the civilian casualties while trying to eliminate Hamas. ~20% of Israel population is Arab-Israeli, many of whom many are identifying themselves as Palestinians. The Arab Israelis are serving in key positions in Israel such as: government officials, supreme court judges, special forces in IDF). On the other side, it's clear that Hamas has the intention for genocide of all Israelis/jews and will do so if given the opportunity! In addition, you are more than welcome to watch / listen / read to the following:
 1. [What is blood libel, and why accusing Israel of genocide is a new example of it. Facts and Data:](#) ~10 mins. educational video about why it's WRONG to accuse Israel of genocide
 2. [5 Myths about Israel and the War in Gaza \(You Tube\) / Apple Podcast:](#) Making Sense: ~40 mins. podcast by Sam Harris
 3. [Israel Implemented More Measures to Prevent Civilian Casualties Than Any Other Nation in History:](#) d Opinion article by John Spencer, chair of urban warfare studies at the Modern War Institute (MWI) at West Point; served for 25 years as an infantry soldier and two tours in Iraq.
2. **Ceasefire:** Everyone is looking for peace and to stop the war, but ask yourself why we're here? Hamas violated the ceasefire on Oct 7 (and even one established shortly after). Note that the "Hague

International Court of Justice" didn't agree with the call for a ceasefire. Also note that Hamas still has 134 hostages (some are Americans), Hamas still shoots rockets on Israel, Hamas vowed to repeat the Oct 7 massacre. So ask yourself... How can you stop the fighting against this terror organization before the hostages are brought back and Hamas is being removed from power?

3. **“Displacement, occupation, oppression”** -> While I recognize the right of Palestinians to live in Gaza, I'd like to point out a few things.
 - a. Jews are the indigenous people of this land. There is clear documentation that Jews lived in Israel more than 4000 years ago.
 - a. Jesus, a Jew, lived there 2024 years ago
 - b. There are evidences of ancient Jewish synagogues in Gaza from ~1500 years ago (508 CE)
 - b. Fast fwd. to recent history:
 - a. 1948-1967: Egypt military ruled Gaza
 - b. 1967-2005: Israel military ruled Gaza (6 days war)
 - c. 2005: Israel evacuated Gaza. **No Israeli military presence since 2015.**
 - c. As far as Jewish people in Arab countries: In 1948, there were 850,000 Jews in Arab countries, who were expelled or left under duress from Arab countries around that time. Today, fewer than 3,500 remain.
 - d. As far as Palestinians in Israel: Israel has more than 2 million Arab-Israelis many of whom identify themselves as Palestinians. They hold positions in the government, judiciary system, and the military special forces. Sorry for repeating myself on this point, but I find it important to highlight again in this context.
 - e. Kids in Gaza are taught in school as part of the official curriculum to hate and destroy Israel. See image pasted below with QR code for more examples.

Last, but not least...if you do choose to discuss the topic in the future, please ensure that the resolution is not biased and clearly condemns Hamas atrocities on Oct. 7, Hamas responsibility for taking hostages, Hamas use of Palestinians as human shield, Hamas using schools/mosques/hospitals to conduct their terror activities, Hamas terrorizing the state of Israel with more than 10000 rockets, Hamas committing war crimes, etc.

Please advise on next steps.

Regards,
Nadav Kanarik
408.621.8669





PRINT ME

Print and help distribute these posters.

Subject: Please help!

Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 3:04:49 PM Pacific Daylight Time

From: Danielle Scharf

To: Voltaire Villanueva

CC: Kristina Whalen, Laurie Scolari, Stacy Gleixner, Kurt Hueg, Teresa Ong, Ajani Byrd, Carla Maitland

This Message Is From an Untrusted Sender

You have not previously corresponded with this sender.

Dear Voltaire Villanueva,

I was shocked and saddened by the twisting of facts and anti-Israel bias in the Resolution Recognizing Sustained Peace and Safety for all Students that the Faculty Senate is considering. The Academic Senate claims to be committed to creating “inclusive and just conditions” and “supporting all members” of the community, but this one-sided resolution smears Israel and will worsen antisemitic hostility and divisions on campus.

The fundamental premise underlying this resolution, that “Zionism is a political ideology that can be critiqued, as all political ideologies under any system of government can be critiqued,” is wrong. In 1900 Zionism was a political ideology that called for the re-establishment of a Jewish state in the Jewish homeland. In 2024, Israel exists. Anti-Zionism is the call to eradicate it, killing or displacing half the world’s Jewish population. This would be a tragedy on the scale of the Holocaust - and since you mention “complex histories and intergenerational impact,” it might behoove you to remember that the world’s Jewish population still has not rebounded to pre-Holocaust levels. (Despite the use of the very loaded term “genocide,” which the International Court of Justice determined Israel is NOT committing, the Palestinian population has grown exponentially since 1948.)

Furthermore, while it’s clear the resolution targets Israel with its denunciation of ethnonationalism, the writers seem unaware that Israel is the most ethnically, religiously, and culturally diverse country in the Middle East, and is surrounded by countries that are exclusively Arab. Over 20% of Israelis are Arab Muslims, with full citizenship rights to vote, run for office, work, etc. Your students might benefit from following Bassem Eid and Yoseph Haddad on social media. Conversely, most Jewish Israelis are the descendants of refugees from the Muslim Middle East, including Yemen, Syria, Iraq, Lebanon and Morocco, where they lived as second class citizens and were subject to pogroms. The Ethiopian Jewish community always laughs at the suggestion that Israelis practice “apartheid” or racism, because most Israelis simply aren’t white. If you truly decry ethnonationalism, perhaps you should focus your ire on Gaza, where Jews were removed by force by the Israeli Army in 2005 and now live only as hostages of Hamas. Or perhaps you should look to Yemen, where the chant “A Curse Upon the Jews!” is a common refrain.

This resolution takes casualty figures directly from Hamas but fails to mention it is internationally recognized as a terrorist organization, offers no context for the destruction of buildings like schools (do you think it’s irrelevant that multiple UNRWA teachers were implicated in the terrorist attacks, and that these “civilian” buildings were being used to hide terror tunnels, launch missiles, and store hostages?), and uses loaded words like “occupation,” and “ongoing genocide” as though they are factual rather than clear attempts to steer the narrative that Israel is the villain.

Given DeAnza’s treatment of Tabia Lee, who was pushed out of her DEI job and called a “dirty Zionist” for daring to try to educate students about antisemitism, I have little expectation that this resolution was written in good faith. I hope you will prove me wrong. Reject this biased, divisive resolution.

Sincerely,
Danielle Scharf
#Mothers Against College Antisemitism

Sent from my iPhone, sorry about the type-os

Subject: Vote NO on inflammatory resolutions about the Israel Hamas War
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 3:08:33 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Gili Valdman
To: Voltaire Villanueva, Patrick Ahrens, Laura Casas, Pearl Cheng, Peter Landsberger, Gilbert Wong, De Anza Student Trustee

This Message Is From an Untrusted Sender

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Dear President Villanueva and esteemed members of the Foothill Academic Senate,

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It is not the place or the purview of the Academic Senate to issue resolutions on complex geopolitical issues. These resolutions only serve to create division, encourage hate speech, and foster unsafe environments for all.

Furthermore, the resolution entitled "Resolution Recognizing Sustained Peace and Safety for All Students" does not address the concerns of Jewish students. Indicating that the resolution was not in fact drafted on behalf of all students. Any resolution, if one must be passed, should name and condemn the brutal attacks committed by Hamas on October 7. This was the deadliest single day for the global Jewish community since the Holocaust. Hamas is a terrorist organization whose charter clearly states its commitment to kill Jews and annihilate Israel and the leaders of Hamas have publicly stated their intent to seek to repeat the bloodletting.

Additionally, the resolution provides a one-sided and unbalanced assessment of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Worse, it doesn't even mention the Israeli community as an important and equal part of the Foothill College community.

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Gili Segev

Subject: Biased, Divisive Resolution Would Worsen Antisemitism on Campus - Please Reject It!

Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 3:53:14 PM Pacific Daylight Time

From: Rikki Mor

To: Voltaire Villanueva

CC: Kristina Whalen, Laurie Scolari, Stacy Gleixner, Kurt Hueg, Teresa Ong, Ajani Byrd, Carla Maitland

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Dear Voltaire Villanueva,

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The fundamental premise underlying this resolution, that “Zionism is a political ideology that can be critiqued, as all political ideologies under any system of government can be critiqued,” is wrong. In 1900 Zionism was a political ideology that called for the re-establishment of a Jewish state in the Jewish homeland. In 2024, Israel exists. Anti-Zionism is the call to eradicate it, killing or displacing half the world’s Jewish population. This would be a tragedy on the scale of the Holocaust - and since you mention “complex histories and intergenerational impact,” it might behoove you to remember that the world’s Jewish population still has not rebounded to pre-Holocaust levels. (Despite the use of the very loaded term “genocide,” which the International Court of Justice determined Israel is NOT committing, the Palestinian population has grown exponentially since 1948.)

Furthermore, while it’s clear the resolution targets Israel with its denunciation of ethnonationalism, the writers seem unaware that Israel is the most ethnically, religiously, and culturally diverse country in the Middle East, and is surrounded by countries that are exclusively Arab. Over 20% of Israelis are Arab Muslims, with full citizenship rights to vote, run for office, work, etc. Your students might benefit from following Bassem Eid and Yoseph Haddad on social media. Conversely, most Jewish Israelis are the descendants of refugees from the Muslim Middle East, including Yemen, Syria, Iraq, Lebanon and Morocco, where they lived as second class citizens and were subject to pogroms. The Ethiopian Jewish community always laughs at the suggestion that Israelis practice “apartheid” or racism, because most Israelis simply aren’t white. If you truly decry ethnonationalism, perhaps you should focus your ire on Gaza, where Jews were removed by force by the Israeli Army in 2005 and now live only as hostages of Hamas. Or perhaps you should look to Yemen, where the chant “A Curse Upon the Jews!” is a common refrain.

This resolution takes casualty figures directly from Hamas but fails to mention it is internationally recognized as a terrorist organization, offers no context for the destruction of buildings like schools (do you think it’s irrelevant that multiple UNRWA teachers were implicated in the terrorist attacks, and that these “civilian” buildings were being used to hide terror tunnels, launch missiles, and store hostages?), and uses loaded words like “occupation,” and “ongoing genocide” as though they are factual rather than clear attempts to steer the narrative that Israel is the villain.

Given DeAnza’s treatment of Tabia Lee, who was pushed out of her DEI job and called a “dirty Zionist” for

daring to try to educate students about antisemitism, I have little expectation that this resolution was written in good faith. I hope you will prove me wrong. Reject this biased, divisive resolution.

Sincerely,

Rikki Mor
#Mothers Against College Antisemitism

Subject: Vote NO on inflammatory resolutions about the Israel Hamas War
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 4:00:31 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Eli Garten
To: Voltaire Villanueva, Patrick Ahrens, Laura Casas, Pearl Cheng, Peter Landsberger, Gilbert Wong, De Anza Student Trustee

This Message Is From an Untrusted Sender

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Dear President Villanueva and esteemed members of the Foothill Academic Senate,

As a local community member, I wish to voice my opposition to the resolution on the Israel-Hamas War that will go up for a vote at Monday's Academic Senate meeting.

It is not the place or the purview of the Academic Senate to issue resolutions on complex geopolitical issues. These resolutions only serve to create division, encourage hate speech, and foster unsafe environments for all.

Furthermore, the resolution entitled "Resolution Recognizing Sustained Peace and Safety for All Students" does not address the concerns of Jewish students. Indicating that the resolution was not in fact drafted on behalf of all students. Any resolution, if one must be passed, should name and condemn the brutal attacks committed by Hamas on October 7. This was the deadliest single day for the global Jewish community since the Holocaust. Hamas is a terrorist organization whose charter clearly states its commitment to kill Jews and annihilate Israel and the leaders of Hamas have publicly stated their intent to seek to repeat the bloodletting.

Additionally, the resolution provides a one-sided and unbalanced assessment of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Worse, it doesn't even mention the Israeli community as an important and equal part of the Foothill College community.

Instead of amplifying hate and division, we urge you to lead with empathy and ensure all students, families, faculty, and staff of Foothill College feel supported and welcomed. The ongoing war between Israel and Hamas has impacted so many members of our community, and non-binding resolutions will not bring peace. During times of crisis, elected leaders must work to bring people together – not tear us apart.

Subject: say "NO" to the one sided outrageous "peace" resolution
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 4:19:15 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Mia Shani
To: Voltaire Villanueva
CC: De Anza Student Trustee, Patrick Ahrens, Laura Casas, Peter Landsberger, Pearl Cheng, asfc.nicolen@gmail.com, Gilbert Wong
Attachments: Attacks on Israel and American democracy through city councils must be stoppe1[1].pdf

This Message Is From an Untrusted Sender

You have not previously corresponded with this sender.

Esteemed president Voltaire Villanueva and all Foothill board members,

The Foothill College Academic Senate has proposed an outrageous "peace" resolution - to be voted on March 18th.

This suggested resolution to the Foothill college academic senate is, essentially, **facilitating the genocide of Israel**. It is outrageously one sided, and blatantly creating a hostile atmosphere for all Jewish and Israeli students. It is mainly and mostly wasting the **valuable time of the senate**, being divisive and outrageously one sided and even dangerous to a big part of the student body!

Attached is the article referenced below, in PDF form - for your reference.

Please read it - and learn how, after a similar resolution was approved by Irvine university, we see **huge increase** in antisemitic incidents on campus and in the community.

We do not wish to see such happening in our beloved bay area college!

Please stop this wild manipulation of the academic senate members by one sided supporters of terror.

If you wish to have a resolution - then please include a call for **BOTH SIDES** to cease fire and negotiate for **lasting and permanent peace**.

Remember the brutal Hamas attack on October 7th - and pay very close attention to their **refusal** in the past month to come to any peace negotiations and discuss the release of **kidnapped** hostages - children, babies, elderly, women, and men!!!!

https://www.ocregister.com/2024/03/09/attacks-on-israel-and-american-democracy-through-city-councils-must-stop/?fbclid=IwAR01WyWRucoA70Rq3omCSZ3GPGDeokB32tXtpMAWOTMc_BZJmeNI870vM8

With deep concern

Mia Shani

Attacks on Israel and American democracy through city councils must be stopped



The Irvine City Council meets in Irvine on Tuesday, November 28, 2023. (Photo by Leonard Ortiz, Orange County Register/SCNG)

By [JULIE MARZOUK](#)

PUBLISHED: March 9, 2024 at 1:56 p.m. | UPDATED: March 12, 2024 at 7:15 p.m.

Since October 7th, city council chambers across the country have been besieged by “ceasefire” protestors. Speakers utilize open meetings laws to accuse Israel of genocide and of being an apartheid state. The protestors hijack [city council chambers](#), [school boards](#), and [labor union](#) meetings, all of whom have no authority over international relations, to demand a “ceasefire resolution.”

Playbooks published online from pro-Palestinian [organizations](#) guide “protestors” through the steps of how to effectively introduce ceasefire resolutions with locally “aligned politicians” and how to effectively grind the functioning of local government to a halt.

The [CEASEFIRE NOW manuals](#) stress that the ultimate goal is to turn Israel into a pariah state and [completely divest from Israel](#). Activists are instructed to [return to city council chambers](#) to seek the economic isolation of Israel after an initial ceasefire resolution has been passed. The national, and indeed international organizations, who are directing these movements are openly hostile to Israel’s existence and have weaponized cracks in American democracy.

In California, the open meetings law, called the Brown Act, specifically allows for non-agendized comments from the public. “Ceasefire protestors” utilize this access to tie

up city councils for months even without a government official placing the conflict on the agenda. Cities are allowing [hate speech](#) to flow from the official speakers podiums of our local governments. Jews are labeled as baby killers, pedophiles, and human sex traffickers. City council chambers are overtaken by crowds shouting “From the River to the Sea Palestine will be Free,” “Globalize the Intifada,” and “resist by any means necessary.” The hate speech and chaos is not only sanctioned by local governments, but often broadcast to communities on local access television channels.

City Councils [are easy pressure points](#) for the “activists.” Councilmembers cave to the mob’s demands simply so that they can get back to the jobs to which they were elected, namely the day to day governing of American cities. Local politicians are not subject matter experts on the conflict, have no access to classified briefings, and are easily manipulated by the distorted facts presented by hundreds of shouting protestors in their chambers.

In some cities, local [council members are harassed](#) and have even received death threats. Protestors show up to locally elected leaders’ personal homes to intimidate them into submission. This tactic of harassment is referred to as [“bird-dogging”](#) in the agitators manuals. Although legal, this intimidation of elected officials to elicit their votes undermines legitimate democratic processes.

The anti-boycott, divest, and sanctions legislation that have passed in both the U.S. federal government and most states often do not apply to municipalities.

The [U.S. Campaign for Palestinian Rights](#) is actively [tracking](#) which [cities](#) have passed ceasefire resolutions and which municipalities, labor unions, and school districts have divested from Israel.

Shortly after passing its ceasefire resolution, the city of [Hayward](#) divested its pension funds from companies allegedly associated with Israel. Each “success” is used to drive the “ceasefire resolution” and [divestment campaign](#) in the next neighboring town.

The ceasefire activists insist that the 1st amendment’s guarantee of free speech protects the spreading of their vicious hate. This is simply not true.

City councils are limited public forums. The courts have clearly held that guarantees of free speech are not absolute in such a setting. Although city councils cannot limit speech based on content, they can absolutely use their [decorum codes](#) to mute speakers who espouse racist, bigoted, and hateful rhetoric. If a speaker used the city

council podium to call African Americans, Latinos, Asians, or LGBT community members derogatory slurs we would expect the city council to silence the speaker. The same must be expected here.

Indeed, in California, the same [Brown Act](#) that guarantees open meetings specifically permits councils to remove disruptive speakers or even shut down chambers to the public entirely if speakers are disrupting council business.

Virtually every city in America has a founding charter and a prevailing municipal code which limits the scope of authority the government body is to act upon.

Clearly, the war between two foreign powers is not within the proper purview of any American city. Ceasefire agitators are instructed in their manuals to connect their [tax dollars](#) spent on aid to Israel to make the issue of ceasefire a local one. Local taxes do not support foreign aid or the U.S. defense budget. More importantly, city councils and city attorneys are failing to uphold their constitutional duties when they do not properly limit their council's discourse to matters within their jurisdiction. An issue does not become "local" simply because people care about it. Furthermore, "local" is not the same as "municipal."

City councils were elected to further the work of municipal, i.e. city, business. They were not empowered to act upon every issue that concerns residents bring to their attention.

City councils are being used as pawns for organizations who intend to spread anti-Jewish and anti-Israel propaganda. The intent is to introduce "ceasefire" resolutions into local government bodies where such actions may have no legislative authority, but do have maximum public relations effect.

The "ceasefire resolutions" further distort the narrative being painted against Israel and aim to legitimize efforts to boycott, divest, and sanction Israel. As the ceasefire manuals make clear, the next stop on their "tour" is local school boards with the aim of influencing curriculum.

When local governments give sanction to and embolden antisemitic rhetoric from the authority of their chambers, society as a whole should be alarmed. Centuries of restrictive dictates against Jews, exiles, pogroms, and the Holocaust all began with the legitimization of Jew hatred by local governments. We should all pray for peace in the Middle East. However, even when there is indeed a ceasefire between Israel and Hamas, these city council "activists" are not going away; because the true aim was never the ceasefire. It is the destruction of Israel.

These agitators have found a way into American government. Unless we take concerted actions to stop them, these mobs will continue to manipulate our democracy to bring Jew hatred into the center of our town and cities.

Julie Marzouk is a lawyer, former law professor, and activist who worked for the last three months to defeat the city of Irvine's ceasefire resolution.

https://www.oregister.com/2024/03/09/attacks-on-israel-and-american-democracy-through-city-councils-must-stop/?fbclid=IwAR01WyWRucoaA70Rq3omCSZ3GPGDeokB32tXtpMAWOTMc_BZJmeNI870vM8

Subject: Vote NO on inflammatory resolutions about the Israel Hamas War
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 4:32:52 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Jessica Drobny
To: Voltaire Villanueva, Patrick Ahrens, Laura Casas, Pearl Cheng, Peter Landsberger, Gilbert Wong, De Anza Student Trustee

This Message Is From an Untrusted Sender

You have not previously corresponded with this sender.

Dear President Villanueva and esteemed members of the Foothill Academic Senate,

As a local community member, I wish to voice my opposition to the resolution on the Israel-Hamas War that will go up for a vote at Monday's Academic Senate meeting.

It is not the place or the purview of the Academic Senate to issue resolutions on complex geopolitical issues. These resolutions only serve to create division, encourage hate speech, and foster unsafe environments for all.

Furthermore, the resolution entitled "Resolution Recognizing Sustained Peace and Safety for All Students" does not address the concerns of Jewish students. Indicating that the resolution was not in fact drafted on behalf of all students. Any resolution, if one must be passed, should name and condemn the brutal attacks committed by Hamas on October 7. This was the deadliest single day for the global Jewish community since the Holocaust. Hamas is a terrorist organization whose charter clearly states its commitment to kill Jews and annihilate Israel and the leaders of Hamas have publicly stated their intent to seek to repeat the bloodletting.

Additionally, the resolution provides a one-sided and unbalanced assessment of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Worse, it doesn't even mention the Israeli community as an important and equal part of the Foothill College community.

Instead of amplifying hate and division, we urge you to lead with empathy and ensure all students, families, faculty, and staff of Foothill College feel supported and welcomed. The ongoing war between Israel and Hamas has impacted so many members of our community, and non-binding resolutions will not bring peace. During times of crisis, elected leaders must work to bring people together – not tear us apart.

Sincerely,

Jessica Feder

Subject: Vote NO on inflammatory resolutions about the Israel Hamas War
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 4:54:12 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Allen Mayer
To: Voltaire Villanueva, Patrick Ahrens, Laura Casas, Pearl Cheng, Peter Landsberger, Gilbert Wong, De Anza Student Trustee

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Sincerely,
Allen Mayer
38 Arlington Ave
Kensington CA 94707

Subject: Vote NO on inflammatory resolutions about the Israel Hamas War
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 5:30:57 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Sheryl Lewis
To: Voltaire Villanueva, Patrick Ahrens, Laura Casas, Pearl Cheng, Peter Landsberger, Gilbert Wong, De Anza Student Trustee

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Regards,

Sheryl Lewis

Subject: Vote NO on inflammatory resolutions about the Israel Hamas War
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 5:35:49 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Lenny Greenberg
To: Patrick Ahrens, Laura Casas, Pearl Cheng, De Anza Student Trustee, Peter Landsberger, Voltaire Villanueva, Gilbert Wong

This Message Is From an Untrusted Sender

You have not previously corresponded with this sender.

Dear President Villanueva and esteemed members of the Foothill Academic Senate, As a local community member, I wish to voice my opposition to the resolution on the Israel-Hamas War that will go up for a vote at Monday's Academic Senate meeting. It is not the place or the purview of the Academic Senate to issue resolutions on complex geopolitical issues. These resolutions only serve to create division, encourage hate speech, and foster unsafe environments for all. Furthermore, the resolution entitled "Resolution Recognizing Sustained Peace and Safety for All Students" does not address the concerns of Jewish students. Indicating that the resolution was not in fact drafted on behalf of all students. Any resolution, if one must be passed, should name and condemn the brutal attacks committed by Hamas on October 7. This was the deadliest single day for the global Jewish community since the Holocaust. Hamas is a terrorist organization whose charter clearly states its commitment to kill Jews and annihilate Israel and the leaders of Hamas have publicly stated their intent to seek to repeat the bloodletting. Additionally, the resolution provides a one-sided and unbalanced assessment of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Worse, it doesn't even mention the Israeli community as an important and equal part of the Foothill College community. Instead of amplifying hate and division, we urge you to lead with empathy and ensure all students, families, faculty, and staff of Foothill College feel supported and welcomed. The ongoing war between Israel and Hamas has impacted so many members of our community, and non-binding resolutions will not bring peace. During times of crisis, elected leaders must work to bring people together – not tear us apart.

Leonard Greenberg
San Jose

Subject: Vote NO on inflammatory resolutions about the Israel Hamas War
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 7:21:06 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Patti Schneider Joselewitz
To: Voltaire Villanueva, Patrick Ahrens, Laura Casas, Pearl Cheng, Peter Landsberger, Gilbert Wong, De Anza Student Trustee

This Message Is From an Untrusted Sender

You have not previously corresponded with this sender.

Dear President Villanueva and esteemed members of the Foothill Academic Senate,

As a local community member, I wish to voice my opposition to the resolution on the Israel-Hamas War that will go up for a vote at Monday's Academic Senate meeting.

It is not the place or the purview of the Academic Senate to issue resolutions on complex geopolitical issues. These resolutions only serve to create division, encourage hate speech, and foster unsafe environments for all.

Furthermore, the resolution entitled "Resolution Recognizing Sustained Peace and Safety for All Students" does not address the concerns of Jewish students. Indicating that the resolution was not in fact drafted on behalf of all students. Any resolution, if one must be passed, should name and condemn the brutal attacks committed by Hamas on October 7. This was the deadliest single day for the global Jewish community since the Holocaust. Hamas is a terrorist organization whose charter clearly states its commitment to kill Jews and annihilate Israel and the leaders of Hamas have publicly stated their intent to seek to repeat the bloodletting.

Additionally, the resolution provides a one-sided and unbalanced assessment of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Worse, it doesn't even mention the Israeli community as an important and equal part of the Foothill College community.

Instead of amplifying hate and division, we urge you to lead with empathy and ensure all students, families, faculty, and staff of Foothill College feel supported and welcomed. The ongoing war between Israel and Hamas has impacted so many members of our community, and non-binding resolutions will not bring peace. During times of crisis, elected leaders must work to bring people together – not tear us apart.

Patti Joselewitz
eespjo@gmail.com

Subject: PLEASE do NOT pass this biased resolution about the Israel Hamas War

Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 8:05:49 PM Pacific Daylight Time

From: Miriam Buzi

To: Voltaire Villanueva, Patrick Ahrens, Laura Casas, Pearl Cheng, Peter Landsberger, Gilbert Wong, De Anza Student Trustee

This Message Is From an Untrusted Sender

You have not previously corresponded with this sender.

To President Villanueva and members of the Foothill Academic Senate,

As a former Foothill student and long time local resident, I wish to voice my strong and heartfelt opposition to the resolution on the Israel-Hamas War that is on the agenda for a vote at Monday's Academic Senate meeting.

The resolution entitled "Resolution Recognizing Sustained Peace and Safety for All Students" does not address the concerns of Jewish students. Indicating that the resolution was not in fact drafted on behalf of all students.

It does not even condemn the brutal attacks committed by Hamas on October 7, or note that this attack broke the ceasefire that EXISTED on October 6.

Israel is fighting Hamas, a terrorist organization that vows to continue such attacks until Jews of Israel are annihilated. Read their charter!

We look to our leaders to bring people together – not tear us apart.

I personally would not feel safe on campus if this were passed. It would create a hostile environment for all Jewish students.

Respectfully yours,
Miriam Buzi

Subject: Vote NO on inflammatory resolutions about the Israel Hamas War
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 8:11:50 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Olga Eid
To: Voltaire Villanueva, Patrick Ahrens, Laura Casas, Pearl Cheng, Peter Landsberger, Gilbert Wong, De Anza Student Trustee

This Message Is From an Untrusted Sender

You have not previously corresponded with this sender.

Dear President Villanueva and esteemed members of the Foothill Academic Senate,

As a local community member, I wish to voice my opposition to the resolution on the Israel-Hamas War that will go up for a vote at Monday's Academic Senate meeting.

It is not the place or the purview of the Academic Senate to issue resolutions on complex geopolitical issues. These resolutions only serve to create division, encourage hate speech, and establish an unsafe environment for Jewish students.

The resolution entitled "Resolution Recognizing Sustained Peace and Safety for All Students" completely ignores the concerns of Jewish students, while indicating that the resolution was, in fact, drafted on behalf of all students. The resolution fails to name and condemn Hamas as responsible for the brutal attacks committed on October 7. This was the deadliest single day for the global Jewish community since the Holocaust. Hamas is a terrorist organization whose charter clearly states its commitment to kill Jews and annihilate Israel and the leaders of Hamas have publicly stated their intent to seek to repeat the bloodletting.

Additionally, the resolution provides a one-sided and unbalanced assessment of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Worse, it doesn't even mention the Israeli community as an important and equal part of the Foothill College community.

Instead of amplifying hate and division, we urge you to lead with empathy and ensure all students, families, faculty, and staff of Foothill College feel supported and welcomed. The ongoing war between Israel and Hamas has impacted so many members of our community, and non-binding resolutions will not bring peace. During times of crisis, elected leaders must work to bring people together – not tear the community apart.

Olga Eidelman
Alumna
CA taxpayer

Subject: Please vote NO on divisive resolutions on the Hamas/Israel war
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 8:21:06 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Joanne Donsky
To: Voltaire Villanueva, Patrick Ahrens, Laura Casas, Pearl Cheng, Peter Landsberger, Gilbert Wong, De Anza Student Trustee

This Message Is From an Untrusted Sender

You have not previously corresponded with this sender.

To members of the Foothill Academic Senate,

As the mother of a son who went to Foothill, and as a community member, I strongly urge you to vote NO on divisive resolutions on the Hamas-Israel War.

Addressing resolutions on foreign issues is not what you, as members of the Academic Senate, should be doing. Your work should be directed at educating Foothill Community College students in your areas of expertise.

The title of this resolution, "Resolution Recognizing Sustained Peace and Safety for All Students," is clearly misleading. Unfortunately, the resolution was not drafted on behalf of all students. Instead, the resolution provides a one-sided and unbalanced assessment of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Worse, it doesn't even mention the Jewish or Israeli students at Foothill. We have seen how Jewish and Israeli students have been targeted with hate speech and actions on other campuses. I am glad that my Jewish son is no longer on campus so that he doesn't have to deal with the vitriol that Jewish students are experiencing. But I do care about Jewish and Israeli students who are on campus.

Please do not promote division and hate on the Foothill campus. Instead, please lead with empathy and ensure all Foothill College students, families, faculty, and staff feel supported and welcomed. So many members of our community have been affected by the war between Israel and Hamas. Non-binding resolutions will not bring peace. Please work to bring people together – not tear them apart.

Sincerely,

Joanne Donsky

Subject: I support Resolution on Peace & Safety

Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 8:33:46 PM Pacific Daylight Time

From: Shahana Shaik

To: asfc.joshuaa@gmail.com, Voltaire Villanueva

I support the resolution.

--



Best,

Shahana Shaik (she/her/hers)

Associated Students of Foothill College Heritage Month Coordinator

Campus Center, Upper Level, Room 2013

12345 El Monte Rd, Los Altos Hills, CA 94022



Oath of Office

We, the Associated Students of Foothill College, do solemnly swear and affirm, that we will execute the duties of our office to the best of our abilities, in accordance with the ASFC Constitution, By-Laws and Codes, and in the best interest of the Associated Students of Foothill College.

As a member of the Foothill College community, I acknowledge that I am a guest on the ancestral and traditional land of the First People of this region, the present-day [Muwekma Ohlone](#) Tribe of the San Francisco Bay Area (formerly Verona Band of Alameda County). I support the sovereignty of this Chochenyo-Thámien-Ramaytush-Awáswas Ohlone-speaking tribal group and other indigenous peoples.

Subject: Vote NO on inflammatory resolutions about the Israel Hamas War
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 8:36:19 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Susan Cohn
To: Voltaire Villanueva, Patrick Ahrens, Laura Casas, Pearl Cheng, Peter Landsberger, Gilbert Wong, De Anza Student Trustee

This Message Is From an Untrusted Sender

You have not previously corresponded with this sender.

Dear President Villanueva and Academic Senate,

As a local community member, I want to voice my opposition to the resolution entitled “Resolution Recognizing Sustained Peace and Safety for All Students” that will go up for a vote at Monday's Academic Senate meeting.

It is not the place of the Academic Senate to issue resolutions on complex geopolitical issues. These resolutions only serve to create division, encourage hate speech, and foster unsafe environments for all.

This resolution provides a one-sided and unbalanced assessment of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. If the resolution is fair, it should mention and condemn the brutal attacks committed by Hamas on October 7 (the deadliest single day for the global Jewish community since the Holocaust). Hamas is a terrorist organization whose charter clearly states its commitment to kill Jews and annihilate Israel.

Instead of amplifying hate and division, we urge you to lead with empathy and ensure all students, families, faculty, and staff of Foothill College feel supported and welcomed. The ongoing war between Israel and Hamas has impacted so many members of our community, and non-binding resolutions will not bring peace. During times of crisis, elected leaders must work to bring people together – not tear us apart.

Sincerely,

Susan and Marvin Cohn
Saratoga, CA

Subject: Vote NO on inflammatory resolutions about the Israel Hamas War
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 9:13:49 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Nadav Hayun
To: Voltaire Villanueva, Patrick Ahrens, Laura Casas, Pearl Cheng, Peter Landsberger, Gilbert Wong, De Anza Student Trustee

This Message Is From an Untrusted Sender

You have not previously corresponded with this sender.

Dear President Villanueva and esteemed members of the Foothill Academic Senate,

As a local community member, I wish to voice my opposition to the resolution on the Israel-Hamas War that will go up for a vote at Monday's Academic Senate meeting.

It is not the place or the purview of the Academic Senate to issue resolutions on complex geopolitical issues. These resolutions only serve to create division, encourage hate speech, and foster unsafe environments for all.

Thank you!

Subject: De Anza CDC Parent - Vote NO on inflammatory resolutions about the Israel Hamas War

Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 9:24:40 PM Pacific Daylight Time

From: Alon Linial

To: Voltaire Villanueva, Patrick Ahrens, Laura Casas, Pearl Cheng, Peter Landsberger, Gilbert Wong, De Anza Student Trustee, Francis Niccoli, Kerri Ryer, Stacy Gleixner, Ajani Byrd, Ben Kaupp, Robert Cormia, Stephan@467jatc.org, Brian Evans, Mona Rawal, Tracee Cunningham, Leticia Serna, Ana Maravilla, Robert Hartwell, Kate Jordahl, Rachelle Campbell, Stephanie Chan, K Allison Meezan, Carolyn Holcroft, Julie Jenkins, Adiel Velasquez, Michael Chang, Roxanne Cnudde, Sara Cooper, Eric Reed, Destiny Rivera, Rocio Giraldez Betron, Katy Ripp, Rita O'Loughlin, Patrick Morriss

This Message Is From an Untrusted Sender

You have not previously corresponded with this sender.

Dear President Villanueva and esteemed members of the Foothill Academic Senate,

My children have been attending De Anza College Child Development Center since 2020. As a CDC parent, I wish to voice my opposition to the resolution on the Israel-Hamas War that will go up for a vote at Monday's Academic Senate meeting.

It is not the place or the purview of the Academic Senate to issue resolutions on complex geopolitical issues. These resolutions only serve to create division, encourage hate speech, and foster unsafe environments for all. The CDC has always been such a welcoming place for families from different cultures. Children celebrate each other's heritage. Only recently we celebrated Hanukkah; Christmas; Lunar New Year; Ramadan; and will soon honor Persian New Year. Everyone feels very welcome, and **we wish for things to stay this way.**

Furthermore, the resolution entitled "Resolution Recognizing Sustained Peace and Safety for All Students" does not address the concerns of Jewish students. Indicating that the resolution was not in fact drafted on behalf of all students. Any resolution, if one must be passed, should name and condemn the brutal attacks committed by Hamas on October 7. This was the deadliest single day for the global Jewish community since the Holocaust. Hamas is a terrorist organization whose charter clearly states its commitment to kill Jews and annihilate Israel and the leaders of Hamas have publicly stated their intent to seek to repeat the bloodletting.

Additionally, the resolution provides a one-sided and unbalanced assessment of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Worse, it doesn't even mention the Israeli community as an important and equal part of the Foothill College community.

Instead of amplifying hate and division, we urge you to lead with empathy and ensure all students, families, faculty, and staff of Foothill College feel supported and welcomed. The ongoing war between Israel and Hamas has impacted so many members of our community, and non-binding resolutions will not bring peace. During times of crisis, elected leaders must work to bring people together – not tear us apart.

Regards
Alon

Subject: Vote NO on inflammatory resolutions about the Israel Hamas War
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 9:29:09 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Aleksandra [Sasha] Soykin
To: Patrick Ahrens, Laura Casas, Pearl Cheng, De Anza Student Trustee, Peter Landsberger, Voltaire Villanueva, Gilbert Wong

This Message Is From an Untrusted Sender

You have not previously corresponded with this sender.

Dear President Villanueva and esteemed members of the Foothill Academic Senate,

As a local community member, I wish to voice my opposition to the resolution on the Israel-Hamas War that will go up for a vote at Monday's Academic Senate meeting.

It is not the place or the purview of the Academic Senate to issue resolutions on complex geopolitical issues. These resolutions only serve to create division, encourage hate speech, and foster unsafe environments for all.

Furthermore, the resolution entitled "Resolution Recognizing Sustained Peace and Safety for All Students" does not address the concerns of Jewish students. Indicating that the resolution was not in fact drafted on behalf of all students. Any resolution, if one must be passed, should name and condemn the brutal attacks committed by Hamas on October 7. This was the deadliest single day for the global Jewish community since the Holocaust. Hamas is a terrorist organization whose charter clearly states its commitment to kill Jews and annihilate Israel and the leaders of Hamas have publicly stated their intent to seek to repeat the bloodletting.

Additionally, the resolution provides a one-sided and unbalanced assessment of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Worse, it doesn't even mention the Israeli community as an important and equal part of the Foothill College community.

Instead of amplifying hate and division, we urge you to lead with empathy and ensure all students, families, faculty, and staff of Foothill College feel supported and welcomed. The ongoing war between Israel and Hamas has impacted so many members of our community, and non-binding resolutions will not bring peace. During times of crisis, elected leaders must work to bring people together – not tear us apart.

Aleksandra Soykin, PhD

Subject: Vote NO on inflammatory resolutions about the Israel Hamas War
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 10:47:55 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Ruthie Shore
To: Voltaire Villanueva, Patrick Ahrens, Laura Casas, Pearl Cheng, Peter Landsberger, Gilbert Wong, De Anza Student Trustee

This Message Is From an Untrusted Sender

You have not previously corresponded with this sender.

Dear President Villanueva and esteemed members of the Foothill Academic Senate,

As a local community member, I wish to voice my opposition to the resolution on the Israel-Hamas War that will go up for a vote at Monday's Academic Senate meeting.

It is not the place or the purview of the Academic Senate to issue resolutions on complex geopolitical issues. These resolutions only serve to create division, encourage hate speech, and foster unsafe environments for all.

Furthermore, the resolution entitled "Resolution Recognizing Sustained Peace and Safety for All Students" does not address the concerns of Jewish students. Indicating that the resolution was not in fact drafted on behalf of all students. Any resolution, if one must be passed, should name and condemn the brutal attacks committed by Hamas on October 7. This was the deadliest single day for the global Jewish community since the Holocaust. Hamas is a terrorist organization whose charter clearly states its commitment to kill Jews and annihilate Israel and the leaders of Hamas have publicly stated their intent to seek to repeat the bloodletting.

Additionally, the resolution provides a one-sided and unbalanced assessment of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Worse, it doesn't even mention the Israeli community as an important and equal part of the Foothill College community.

Instead of amplifying hate and division, we urge you to lead with empathy and ensure all students, families, faculty, and staff of Foothill College feel supported and welcomed. The ongoing war between Israel and Hamas has impacted so many members of our community, and non-binding resolutions will not bring peace. During times of crisis, elected leaders must work to bring people together – not tear us apart.

Subject: Vote NO on inflammatory resolutions about the Israel Hamas War
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 11:17:21 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: sandy simon
To: Voltaire Villanueva, Patrick Ahrens, Laura Casas, Pearl Cheng, Peter Landsberger, Gilbert Wong, De Anza Student Trustee

This Message Is From an Untrusted Sender

You have not previously corresponded with this sender.

Dear President Villanueva and esteemed members of the Foothill Academic Senate,

As a local community member, retired faculty member, and former student parent, I wish to voice my opposition to the resolution on the Israel-Hamas War that will go up for a vote at Monday's Academic Senate meeting.

It is not the place or the purview of the Academic Senate to issue resolutions on complex geopolitical issues. These resolutions only serve to create division, encourage hate speech, and foster unsafe environments for all.

Furthermore, the resolution entitled "Resolution Recognizing Sustained Peace and Safety for All Students" does not address the concerns of Jewish students. Indicating that the resolution was not in fact drafted on behalf of all students. Any resolution, if one must be passed, should name and condemn the brutal attacks committed by Hamas on October 7. This was the deadliest single day for the global Jewish community since the Holocaust. Hamas is a terrorist organization whose charter clearly states its commitment to kill Jews and annihilate Israel and the leaders of Hamas have publicly stated their intent to seek to repeat the bloodletting.

Additionally, the resolution provides a one-sided and unbalanced assessment of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Worse, it doesn't even mention the Israeli community as an important and equal part of the Foothill College community.

Instead of amplifying hate and division, we urge you to lead with empathy and ensure all students, families, faculty, and staff of Foothill College feel supported and welcomed. The ongoing war between Israel and Hamas has impacted so many members of our community, and non-binding resolutions will not bring peace. During times of crisis, elected leaders must work to bring people together – not tear us apart.

Sent from my iPhone

Subject: Biased, Divisive Resolution Would Worsen Antisemitism on Campus - Please Reject It!

Date: Thursday, March 14, 2024 at 4:59:37 AM Pacific Daylight Time

From: Anna Ennis

To: Voltaire Villanueva

CC: Kristina Whalen, Laurie Scolari, Stacy Gleixner, Kurt Hueg, Teresa Ong, Ajani Byrd, Carla Maitland

This Message Is From an Untrusted Sender

You have not previously corresponded with this sender.

Dear Voltaire Villanueva,

I was shocked and saddened by the twisting of facts and anti-Israel bias in the Resolution Recognizing Sustained Peace and Safety for all Students that the Faculty Senate is considering. The Academic Senate claims to be committed to creating “inclusive and just conditions” and “supporting all members” of the community, but this one-sided resolution smears Israel and will worsen antisemitic hostility and divisions on campus.

The fundamental premise underlying this resolution, that “Zionism is a political ideology that can be critiqued, as all political ideologies under any system of government can be critiqued,” is wrong. In 1900 Zionism was a political ideology that called for the re-establishment of a Jewish state in the Jewish homeland. In 2024, Israel exists. Anti-Zionism is the call to eradicate it, killing or displacing half the world’s Jewish population. This would be a tragedy on the scale of the Holocaust - and since you mention “complex histories and intergenerational impact,” it might behoove you to remember that the world’s Jewish population still has not rebounded to pre-Holocaust levels. (Despite the use of the very loaded term “genocide,” which the International Court of Justice determined Israel is NOT committing, the Palestinian population has grown exponentially since 1948.)

Furthermore, while it’s clear the resolution targets Israel with its denunciation of ethnonationalism, the writers seem unaware that Israel is the most ethnically, religiously, and culturally diverse country in the Middle East, and is surrounded by countries that are exclusively Arab. Over 20% of Israelis are Arab Muslims, with full citizenship rights to vote, run for office, work, etc. Your students might benefit from following Bassem Eid and Yoseph Haddad on social media. Conversely, most Jewish Israelis are the descendants of refugees from the Muslim Middle East, including Yemen, Syria, Iraq, Lebanon and Morocco, where they lived as second class citizens and were subject to pogroms. The Ethiopian Jewish community always laughs at the suggestion that Israelis practice “apartheid” or racism, because most Israelis simply aren’t white. If you truly decry ethnonationalism, perhaps you should focus your ire on Gaza, where Jews were removed by force by the Israeli Army in 2005 and now live only as hostages of Hamas. Or perhaps you should look to Yemen, where the chant “A Curse Upon the Jews!” is a common refrain.

This resolution takes casualty figures directly from Hamas but fails to mention it is internationally recognized as a terrorist organization, offers no context for the destruction of buildings like schools (do you think it’s irrelevant that multiple UNRWA teachers were implicated in the terrorist attacks, and that these “civilian” buildings were being used to hide terror tunnels, launch missiles, and store hostages?), and uses loaded words like “occupation,” and “ongoing genocide” as though they are factual rather than clear attempts to steer the narrative that Israel is the villain.

Given DeAnza's treatment of Tabia Lee, who was pushed out of her DEI job and called a "dirty Zionist" for daring to try to educate students about antisemitism, I have little expectation that this resolution was written in good faith. I hope you will prove me wrong. Reject this biased, divisive resolution.

Sincerely,
Anna Ennis
#Mothers Against College Antisemitism

Sent from my iPhone

Subject: Vote NO on inflammatory resolutions about the Israel Hamas War
Date: Thursday, March 14, 2024 at 7:05:15 AM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Erin Ben-David
To: Voltaire Villanueva, Patrick Ahrens, Laura Casas, Pearl Cheng, Peter Landsberger, Gilbert Wong, De Anza Student Trustee

This Message Is From an Untrusted Sender

You have not previously corresponded with this sender.

Dear President Villanueva and esteemed members of the Foothill Academic Senate,

As a local community member, I wish to voice my opposition to the resolution on the Israel-Hamas War that will go up for a vote at Monday's Academic Senate meeting.

It is not the place or the purview of the Academic Senate to issue resolutions on complex geopolitical issues. These resolutions only serve to create division, encourage hate speech, and foster unsafe environments for all.

Furthermore, the resolution entitled "Resolution Recognizing Sustained Peace and Safety for All Students" does not address the concerns of Jewish students. Indicating that the resolution was not in fact drafted on behalf of all students. Any resolution, if one must be passed, should name and condemn the brutal attacks committed by Hamas on October 7. This was the deadliest single day for the global Jewish community since the Holocaust. Hamas is a terrorist organization whose charter clearly states its commitment to kill Jews and annihilate Israel and the leaders of Hamas have publicly stated their intent to seek to repeat the bloodletting.

Additionally, the resolution provides a one-sided and unbalanced assessment of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Worse, it doesn't even mention the Israeli community as an important and equal part of the Foothill College community.

Instead of amplifying hate and division, we urge you to lead with empathy and ensure all students, families, faculty, and staff of Foothill College feel supported and welcomed. The ongoing war between Israel and Hamas has impacted so many members of our community, and non-binding resolutions will not bring peace. During times of crisis, elected leaders must work to bring people together – not tear us apart.

Erin Ben-David

Subject: The upcoming ceasefire resolution proposal...
Date: Thursday, March 14, 2024 at 10:05:55 AM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Natalie Forood
To: Natalie Forood

This Message Is From an Untrusted Sender

You have not previously corresponded with this sender.

Dear Senate Members and Board of Trustees,

Although I understand why there's an effort to bring the ceasefire resolution to a vote, calls to have Foothill College take a stance on the conflict in Gaza are misguided.

The members of this Senate and the Board need to have the classified intelligence and extensive expertise to make decisions on complicated foreign policy issues. No one in this Senate, the Board, or attendance at the Monday meeting has that knowledge - nor was anyone tasked to make those types of decisions.

We all feel the pain when any innocent life is lost or in danger - whether it's the young innocent Nova Music Festival attendees, raped and/or murdered Kibbutz residents and their children, hostages currently held in Gaza - some of whom are American, or the innocent civilians in Gaza. However, in any war, there are, unfortunately, civilian casualties. When intentionally emotionally charged words such as apartheid, occupation, and genocide are thrown around to get a rise out of people who know nothing about the history of the conflict, this is doing everyone a disservice and will only put more students and community members in harm's way.

People can be critical of military action but that's different than accusing a nation of genocide.

The civilian-to-Hamas combatant death ratio in the Israeli/Gaza conflict is 2:1, which means that for every 2 civilians killed, 1 Hamas terrorist was eliminated. **How does**

this compare to other wars? Korean war was 3:1, Iraq war was 4:1, WWII 2:1, NATO Yugoslavia was 4:1.

Throwing around the word “genocide” diminishes the real meaning of it.

Any innocent civilians lost in any war is devastating, but to make serious accusations in an attempt to incite people's emotions, especially those who get their information from TikTok, is misleading and malicious.

One of the clauses in the resolution says the following:

“WHEREAS, the Academic Senate recognizes a government does not represent all of its people, that Zionism is a political ideology that can be critiqued, as all political ideologies under any system of government can be critiqued;1 and”

Zionism is more than a political ideology. It’s a term used to describe the support for the establishment and preservation of a Jewish state in the historic land of Israel. It encompasses various interpretations and approaches, but its core principle is the assertion of Jewish national identity and the right to self-determination in the ancestral homeland.

To simply say it's a political ideology is to put a negative spin on a very important and complicated historical topic and to open it up for debate. I included a link below to a video that explains this in greater detail.

Here are a few short videos that talk about the history of the region. They are made by a Middle East history professor who teaches a a community college similar to yours. He includes facts and statistics, without bias. Please watch them. They summarize the history of the region and how it evolved over the years. These details are omitted from the resolution which dilutes the context. These are also details that most of your students do not know.

Genocide/Blood Libel <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w8K1Jo8UzmM&t=300s>

What is Zionism and why it matters?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mjPTziC1c_w

Root cause of all Arab Israeli conflicts

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cbqZ7o68Goc&list=LL&index=15&t=127s>

Land occupation

[Did Israel Steal Palestinian Land?](#)

Arab Israeli Wars and Maps (Longer Video)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dgudimx8Ynk&list=LL&index=18>

Additionally, the charter of the Academic Senate is to make recommendations to the Foothill Administration and the District Board of Trustees on academic and professional matters, not political (<https://foothill.edu/gov/academic-senate/about-us.html>).

I urge you to vote against the ceasefire resolution, which will have zero impact on the current conflict and will only incite hatred and animosity between students and the community.

Thank you,
Natalie Forood

Subject: Vote NO on inflammatory resolutions about the Israel Hamas War
Date: Thursday, March 14, 2024 at 12:55:31 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Vered B
To: Voltaire Villanueva, Patrick Ahrens, Laura Casas, Pearl Cheng, Peter Landsberger, Gilbert Wong, De Anza Student Trustee

This Message Is From an Untrusted Sender

You have not previously corresponded with this sender.

Dear President Villanueva and esteemed members of the Foothill Academic Senate,

As a local community member, I wish to voice my opposition to the resolution on the Israel-Hamas War that will go up for a vote at Monday's Academic Senate meeting.

It is not the place or the purview of the Academic Senate to issue resolutions on complex geopolitical issues. These resolutions only serve to create division, encourage hate speech, and foster unsafe environments for all.

Furthermore, the resolution entitled "Resolution Recognizing Sustained Peace and Safety for All Students" does not address the concerns of Jewish students. Indicating that the resolution was not in fact drafted on behalf of all students. Any resolution, if one must be passed, should name and condemn the brutal attacks committed by Hamas on October 7. This was the deadliest single day for the global Jewish community since the Holocaust. Hamas is a terrorist organization whose charter clearly states its commitment to kill Jews and annihilate Israel and the leaders of Hamas have publicly stated their intent to seek to repeat the bloodletting.

Additionally, the resolution provides a one-sided and unbalanced assessment of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Worse, it doesn't even mention the Israeli community as an important and equal part of the Foothill College community.

Instead of amplifying hate and division, we urge you to lead with empathy and ensure all students, families, faculty, and staff of Foothill College feel supported and welcomed. The ongoing war between Israel and Hamas has impacted so many members of our community, and non-binding resolutions will not bring peace. During times of crisis, elected leaders must work to bring people together – not tear us apart.

iPhone
Vered Binyamini

Subject: Vote NO on inflammatory resolutions about the Israel Hamas War
Date: Thursday, March 14, 2024 at 1:05:14 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Yael Acrich
To: Voltaire Villanueva, Patrick Ahrens, Laura Casas, Pearl Cheng, Peter Landsberger, Gilbert Wong, De Anza Student Trustee

This Message Is From an Untrusted Sender

You have not previously corresponded with this sender.

Dear President Villanueva and esteemed members of the Foothill Academic Senate,

As a local community member, I wish to voice my opposition to the resolution on the Israel-Hamas War that will go up for a vote at Monday's Academic Senate meeting.

It is not the place or the purview of the Academic Senate to issue resolutions on complex geopolitical issues. These resolutions only serve to create division, encourage hate speech, and foster unsafe environments for all.

Furthermore, the resolution entitled "Resolution Recognizing Sustained Peace and Safety for All Students" does not address the concerns of Jewish students. Indicating that the resolution was not in fact drafted on behalf of all students. Any resolution, if one must be passed, should name and condemn the brutal attacks committed by Hamas on October 7. This was the deadliest single day for the global Jewish community since the Holocaust. Hamas is a terrorist organization whose charter clearly states its commitment to kill Jews and annihilate Israel and the leaders of Hamas have publicly stated their intent to seek to repeat the bloodletting.

Additionally, the resolution provides a one-sided and unbalanced assessment of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Worse, it doesn't even mention the Israeli community as an important and equal part of the Foothill College community.

Instead of amplifying hate and division, we urge you to lead with empathy and ensure all students, families, faculty, and staff of Foothill College feel supported and welcomed. The ongoing war between Israel and Hamas has impacted so many members of our community, and non-binding resolutions will not bring peace. During times of crisis, elected leaders must work to bring people together – not tear us apart.

Sent from my iPhone

Subject: Stand up against hate. Vote NO on inflammatory resolutions about the Israel Hamas War
Date: Thursday, March 14, 2024 at 7:33:42 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Ola Braver
To: Voltaire Villanueva, Patrick Ahrens, Laura Casas, Pearl Cheng, Peter Landsberger, Gilbert Wong, De Anza Student Trustee

This Message Is From an Untrusted Sender

You have not previously corresponded with this sender.

Dear President Villanueva and esteemed members of the Foothill Academic Senate,

As a local community member, I wish to voice my opposition to the resolution on the Israel-Hamas War that will go up for a vote at Monday's Academic Senate meeting.

It is not the place or the purview of the Academic Senate to issue resolutions on complex geopolitical issues. These resolutions only serve to create division, encourage hate speech, and foster unsafe environments for all.

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Best
Ola

Subject: For the meeting on the 18th
Date: Thursday, March 14, 2024 at 10:30:53 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Sarita Bronstein
To: Voltaire Villanueva
CC: Chancellor, Lee Lambert, Kristina Whalen
Attachments: image001.png, Counterpoints Against Foothill RESOLUTION
RECOGNIZING SUSTAINED PEACE AND SAFETY FOR ALL ST (1)
(002).pdf

Dear President Villanueva,

I want to reiterate my concern that a resolution of this nature could create a hostile environment for the Jewish community at Foothill College. The title of this resolution is misleading, as its intent is the opposite of fostering peace and safety for all students, particularly when it demonizes the Jewish State while giving a total pass to Hamas. Moreover, using unreliable and biased sources to support the authors' case is a disheartening departure from the academic standards I would expect a reputable school to uphold. The same faculty would expect their students to use reliable sources when researching for an assignment.

We are receiving significant feedback from students, parents, faculty, and community members, expressing their deep concern and outrage over this proposed resolution. I know you have been receiving correspondence as well.

I cannot attend Monday's meeting; Mitch Reitman, our Assistant Director, will fill my place. I am sending you a document countering several of the clauses in the resolution. See Attached!
Please share the document with the other senators; I hope they will take the time to read it. I also hope that they have not made up their minds already without the appropriate due diligence.

The Academic Senate will leave either a legacy of inclusivity and intolerance for discrimination and harassment against **all** students, or it will inspire an environment ripe with hatred towards the Jewish community on campus.

I appreciate your time and consideration,

Sarita

Sarita Bronstein
Executive Director
Hillel of Silicon Valley
44 S 11th Street
San Jose, California 95112
W: [\(408\) 775-7531](tel:(408)775-7531) | sarita@hillelsv.org | www.hillelsv.org



Inspiring Jewish Life
and Israel Engagement
on Campus

Am Yisrael Chai!

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General Background

- *On October 7th, with funding and support from Iran’s regime, Hamas and other Islamist extremist terror groups that control Gaza launched a brutal war by brutally massacring civilians in Israel. After reviewing the evidence, U.S. Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin [said](#), “I know a lot about ISIS, and [the Hamas massacre] is worse than what I saw with ISIS.”*
 - **Trigger warning:** *Details of sexual violence and other forms of violence from the massacre are omitted from this document because of their disturbing nature. Some testimony can be found [here](#).*
- *Over 1,200 people in Israel were murdered on October 7, and over [14,047](#) wounded on that day and after by terrorists who invaded Israel and have fired over 13,000 rockets across the country. [68% of](#) Israeli casualties were civilians. They include women, children, the elderly, paramedics, police, and firefighters.*
- *While Hamas’s primary target was Jews, Hamas murdered Israelis of all backgrounds, including Bedouin, Druze, and Palestinian Israelis. Several Bedouin Israelis were held hostage in Gaza. Citizens from over [40 countries](#) were murdered or taken hostage by Hamas.*
- *Numerous towns in the south of Israel were infiltrated, with terrorists setting homes on fire to force families to come out and be kidnapped or murdered. 364 civilians were massacred at a music festival. Over 240 Israelis, including the elderly, women, and children, were kidnapped, and 134 are estimated to still be held in Gaza. [217,000](#) Israelis are internally displaced.*
- *The horrific October 7th War is a direct result of this terrorist onslaught. Israel’s army, the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) first had to fight off all the terrorists who invaded on October 7th, and then launched extensive airstrikes against Hamas targets in Gaza. On October 27th, Israeli ground forces started military operations in northern Gaza after calling on civilians to evacuate. The IDF has continued to warn civilians to get away from military targets and has [coordinated](#) deliveries of over 300,000 tons of food, water, medicine, and other aid into Gaza.*

- *The Hamas-run health ministry in Gaza says over 30,000 Palestinians have been killed and over 68,100 wounded in the fighting. The IDF said it has killed at least 13,000 Hamas members during the war. The actual number of casualties will likely remain unclear for some time, due to misinformation spread by Hamas and other factors.*
- *This war is a tragedy that has caused horrific suffering on both sides. It is made worse by Hamas using innocent Palestinians as human shields. Hamas and other terrorists have militarized civilian areas in Gaza. Their leaders and militants hide, store weapons, and fire rockets at Israel from homes, schools, hospitals, and mosques. These are war crimes against Israelis and Palestinians alike.*

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING SUSTAINED PEACE AND SAFETY FOR ALL STUDENTS

WHEREAS, Foothill College Academic Senate is committed to creating inclusive and just conditions where all students, staff, faculty, and administration feel a sense of belonging; and

Counterpoint: Passing this resolution would exclude and create unjust conditions for Jewish and Israeli students by promoting misleading claims about the October 7th War, shielding genocidal terrorists who seek Israel's destruction from accountability, and sending the message that Jews and Israelis don't have the right to defend themselves against the horrific atrocities of Hamas. This resolution should be voted down in the spirit of inclusion and justice.

WHEREAS, Foothill College has a history of embracing social justice, striving for equity, and supporting all members of our college community; and

Counterpoint: Endorsing a narrative and policy position that protects Hamas terrorists who just massacred, tortured, mutilated, raped, and kidnapped innocent civilians, would be the opposite of social justice. This resolution should be voted down to uphold our values of social justice, equity, and support for all members of our community.

WHEREAS, we cherish our cultural richness on our campus as evidenced by our Heritage Months, and strive to ensure all communities feel respected and heard, including our Arab American, Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Palestinian, and SWANA (Southwest Asian and North African) communities; and

Counterpoint: All students should feel heard and respected, which is why this resolution should be voted down. Passing this would make Jewish and Israeli students feel unheard, disrespected, and ostracized. Instead of choosing one community over another, Foothill AS should work to bring different sides of the issue together to figure out a better way forward for everyone.

WHEREAS, Foothill College Academic Senate recognizes that many groups within our community have had long and complex histories of trauma, displacement, and oppression, and we are committed to creating safe learning spaces for every student by committing to combat Anti-Arab racism, antisemitism, Islamophobia, xenophobia, and ethnonationalism in all its forms; and

Counterpoint: Antisemitism since the October 7th massacre has reached unprecedented heights, both in general society and especially on college campuses. Incidents have included antisemitic vandalism, physical assaults, discriminatory conduct, bullying, and harassment. When combating antisemitism, it is crucial that this body amplifies Jewish voices. The vast majority of Jews agree that denying Israel's right to exist is antisemitic. Much of the language in this resolution is intentionally misleading and aimed at undermining Israel's right to exist as an independent country with the right to defend its citizens from external threats. A condemnation of antisemitism that ignores mainstream Jewish voices is performative at best. We must do better by our Jewish community.

WHEREAS, we recognize these complex histories and their intergenerational impact are felt deeply by our local communities during times of war, and we choose to uplift the value of peace and restorative justice—locally and globally; and

Counterpoint: Passing a resolution that protects Hamas from all responsibility while vilifying Israel for defending itself in a war it did not start or want does not promote peace or justice. It would only reward genocidal terrorists and encourage them to continue committing atrocities against Israelis and then hiding behind Palestinian civilians. In order to “uplift the value of peace,” we must commit to holding Hamas responsible for the current war by pressuring its leadership to surrender and release the hostages they are still holding captive in Gaza.

WHEREAS, Santa Clara County Board of Education passes a Resolution Recognizing Sustained Peace and Safety for All Children which called for a ceasefire ¹; and

WHEREAS, Associated Students of Foothill College adopted a resolution, “Resolution Acknowledging the Palestinian Lives Lost During the Attacks Against Humanity”² on May 27, 2021 which resolved to commit to provide factual information and history that concerns the Israeli occupation of Palestine; and

WHEREAS, DeAnza College Student Government adopted a “Resolution Acknowledging the Palestinian lives Lost During the Attacks Against Humanity on May 26, 2021 which resolved to commit to provide factual information and history that concerns the Israeli occupation of Palestine; and

WHEREAS, DeAnza Associated Student Body passed a resolution “In Support of Divestment from Companies That Profit from the Israeli Occupation of Palestinian Territories”³ on March 15, 2017; and

Counterpoint: The passing of biased ceasefire and divestment resolutions at other schools and institutions shows nothing other than their misunderstanding of the conflict and how to end it. We should be striving for a higher academic and moral standard than those displayed by Santa Clara County Board of Education, the DeAnza College Student Government, and past Foothill College student governments.

On DeAnza's Prior Divestment Resolution

Counterpoint: Divestment is part of the global BDS movement against Israel, which is tied to Hamas according to the [New York Times](#) and [expressed support](#) for the atrocities of October 7th. It is important to note that most anti-Israel divestment resolutions have been voted down by student governments. Furthermore, they have no practical effect whether they pass or not. No American university has agreed to divest from companies doing business with Israel, so these resolutions are purely symbolic. Regardless, the fact that some student governments have passed similar resolutions changes nothing about how problematic this resolution is. Endorsing misleading accusations, ignoring context, and shielding genocidal terrorists from accountability is decidedly a step in the wrong direction.

Moreover, the May 2021 DeAnza resolution that committed to providing “factual information” actually promoted misinformation.

Claims of Israeli “Occupation” in Gaza

Counterpoint: Israel does not occupy Gaza. Israel withdrew every Israeli soldier and civilian from Gaza in 2005. This was a unilateral withdrawal, meaning Israel took this step without first signing a peace agreement with the Palestinians. After winning the Palestinian legislative elections in 2006, Hamas violently took over Gaza from the Palestinian Authority (PA) in 2007. They have ruled Gaza ever since, and as a result terrorists have fired over 20,000 rockets at Israel from the territory, including over 12,000 since Oct. 7, 2023.

In response, both Israel and Egypt have imposed a blockade to prevent weapons from entering Gaza. Despite the ongoing threats from Hamas and other terror groups, Israel has delivered thousands of tons of food, water, medicine, aid, and other materials to the territory every single week. Palestinian civilians living there still suffer tremendous hardships, mainly due to hostilities between Hamas and Israel. However, claiming that Israel “controls” Gaza means shielding the Hamas government from any accountability for the wellbeing of the people under its rule.

Israel's Presence in The West Bank

Counterpoint: Between 1948 and 1967, the West Bank was ruled by the nation of Jordan. In 1967, as Israel was fighting a war with Egypt to its south, the Israeli leadership reached out to Jordan saying, “we won't attack you if you don't attack us.” Jordan ignored that and attacked Israel. In response, Israel entered the West Bank and pushed Jordan out. One year later, in 1968, Israel offered to give up most of the West Bank in return for peace, but Jordan refused. Jordan dropped its claims to the West Bank in 1988 and Israel began negotiating with the Palestinians.

In 1993 and 1995, the Israelis and the Palestinians signed a pair of treaties called the Oslo Accords, which stipulated that Israel would retain control of East Jerusalem and 60% of the West Bank until the two parties reach a final peace agreement. 40% of the West Bank is governed by the Palestinian Authority (PA), and 95% of West Bank Palestinians live in this PA controlled territory. **Israel has repeatedly offered to leave the vast majority of the West Bank in return for peace, but Palestinian leaders have rejected every Israeli offer.** As such, Israel's continued presence in these territories is entirely legal under international treaties and continues primarily because of decisions made by the Palestinian leadership.

It is also important to note that Israel's safety measures in the West Bank comply with the Oslo Accords and all signed agreements with the Palestinians. These agreements gave Israel the right to take measures to protect its civilians from terrorism. This does not negate the fact that Israeli policies have created hardships for innocent Palestinians. However, it does provide crucial context for understanding why the status quo in the West Bank has continued up until now.

WHEREAS, we mourn the loss of hundreds of civilian lives in Israel, and over tens of thousands civilian lives in Palestine,⁴ including over 9,600 Palestinian children⁵ from Oct 7 to the present, and also throughout the decades of displacement,⁶ occupation,⁷ and blockade endured in Gaza⁸ and the West Bank;⁹ and

Counterpoint: *The death of every civilian is a tragedy. The casualty numbers cited in this resolution are from the Gaza Ministry of Health, a branch of the Hamas-run government. They are provided solely by Hamas and cannot be independently verified. In previous wars, humanitarian organizations in Gaza would verify casualty numbers provided by the Hamas-run Health Ministry. However, that is not happening during the October 7th War and Hamas has been exposed for promoting statistics that mislead the public in multiple ways. The number of casualties provided by the Hamas-run Gaza's Health Ministry does not differentiate between combatants and civilians, or between those killed by the IDF and by misfired Hamas rockets that fell in Gaza. Hamas has a record of inflating the number of civilian casualties, and Hamas members often wear civilian clothes during fighting. Meanwhile, the IDF estimates that over 13,000 of those killed in Gaza were combatants. The tragic reality is that the exact number of civilian casualties will not be known for some time.*

Additionally, there is no blockade on the West Bank. For counterpoints related to the claims of occupation and the Israeli-Egyptian blockade on Gaza, see sections "Israel's Presence in the West Bank," and "Claims of Israeli Occupation in Gaza."

On the Displacement of Gazans

The current war and the broader Israeli-Palestinian conflict have caused horrific suffering for both peoples. Gazans have been largely displaced because Israel has made repeated, public calls for the evacuation of civilians from northern Gaza before they began attacking Hamas terrorists and infrastructure. This was to reduce the risk of harm to civilians. Though many Hamas members may have left northern Gaza alongside civilians, thus hindering Israel's aims of targeting Hamas, Israel was willing to accept that risk if it meant civilian lives are saved. This represents a double standard. Over 210,000 Israelis have also been evacuated, many of whom are from the over 60 communities near Gaza and Lebanon that have come under attack from Hamas in Gaza and Hezbollah in Lebanon.

WHEREAS, 625,000 children are out of school,¹⁰ at least 390 educational institutions,¹¹ including all universities in Gaza,¹² have been destroyed or damaged by Israel, 4,327 students have been killed and 7,819 others injured, at least 231 teachers and administrators have been killed, and another 756 educators injured; and

Hamas use of civilian structures

Counterpoint: Hamas' use of civilian buildings, such as schools, mosques, and hospitals, for military purposes has been well documented. In November 2023, the US government said that US intelligence supported Israeli reports of Hamas using Gaza hospitals as command centers. Videos also show Hamas terrorists taking Israeli hostages to Al-Shifa Hospital after the October 7 attacks. Hamas' extensive tunnel system, built throughout Gaza and underneath residential neighborhoods and buildings, is similarly well documented. According to the ICRC, "a hospital or school may become a legitimate military target if it contributes to specific military operations of the enemy and if its destruction offers a definite military advantage for the attacking side." The militarization of Gaza, and especially of civilian areas, homes, mosques, schools, and hospitals, by Hamas for terrorist purposes is a crime against the innocent civilians in Gaza.

IDF Ethics

In its conflict with Hamas, Israel is driven by its responsibility to protect Israelis of all backgrounds from terrorism. This is the right and duty of every country, and Israel is no exception. This was reaffirmed in an October 10 statement from President Biden, who said, "Like every nation in the world, Israel has the right to respond — indeed has a duty to respond — to these vicious attacks." The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) code of ethics requires its soldiers to do everything they can to protect innocent life.

Numerous legal and military experts have documented how the IDF does not intentionally target civilians and goes beyond the standard practices of many countries by warning civilians before striking military targets. Even in the current war against Hamas, news outlets have documented Israel's efforts to minimize civilian casualties by asking civilians to leave airstrike targets in advance. Unfortunately, Hamas continues to prevent their civilians from fleeing the sites by building roadblocks, taking residents' car keys, and spreading lies about the warnings being "Israeli propaganda". These actions by Hamas intentionally keep civilians from leaving warzones, often with tragic results.

Additionally, on January 31, John Spencer, the chair of urban warfare studies at the Modern War Institute at West Point Military Academy, outlined in an article the numerous steps the IDF has taken to prevent civilian casualties in the current war with Hamas and comparing them to the actions of other armies. Spencer wrote, "No military in modern history has faced over 30,000 urban defenders in more than seven cities using human shields and hiding in hundreds of miles of underground networks purposely built under civilian sites, while holding hundreds of hostages. Despite the unique challenges Israel faces in its war against Hamas, it has implemented more measures to prevent civilian casualties than any other military in history." The only way to prevent horrific conflicts like the October 7th War is for Hamas and other terrorist groups to release the hostages and permanently stop their attacks against Israeli civilians.

This war is a tragedy that was caused by Hamas's brutal October 7th massacre. It would end tomorrow if they surrendered and returned the 134 hostages that they continue to hold captive. For the sake of innocent people on both sides, we should be pressuring Hamas, a genocidal terrorist organization, to surrender, rather than pressuring Israel to end its efforts to defend itself.

WHEREAS, nearly 100 journalists and their families have been killed since Oct 7th;¹³ and

See sections “On the Number of Casualties,” “ Hamas’s Use of Civilian Structures,” and “IDF Ethics.”

WHEREAS, we recognize all liberation movements are often driven by inspired youth and student activism,¹⁴ including here at Foothill and DeAnza College;

WHEREAS, the Foothill College Academic Senate believes that peaceful diplomacy is the only way to achieve these goals; be it

Counterpoint: Passing a resolution that shields a genocidal terrorist organization that is responsible for the death of thousands of Israelis and Palestinians will do nothing to promote liberation or peaceful diplomacy.

RESOLVED, that the Foothill College Academic Senate call for support of the International Court of Justice’s orders that Israel must do everything within its power to prevent genocidal acts against Gazans,¹⁵ including, among others, deliberately inflicting conditions of life calculated to bring about Gazans' physical destruction, carried out with the intent to destroy the Gazan people; and, be it further

Counterpoint: In the legal case this resolution seeks to support, the ICJ refused to call for a ceasefire.

Addressing South Africa’s ICJ Case

Counterpoint: *The ICJ has not ruled on South Africa’s unsubstantiated claims of genocide and is unlikely to do so until years from now. What the ICJ did was issue an interim ruling that, upon reviewing South Africa’s evidence, **rejected demands for a “ceasefire,”** called for the unconditional and immediate release of hostages (which Hamas has not done), and urged Israel to take several provisional measures to prevent genocide. If the ICJ believed that a genocide is actively taking place, it would have called for an immediate ceasefire, but it did not.*

Furthermore, the South African government is not neutral and has aligned itself with Hamas, the terrorists responsible for the October 7th massacre. A Jerusalem Post [report](#) found a “network of several South African organizations and straw man companies deeply involved with funding Hamas activities through the Al-Quds Foundation, an international group sanctioned by the US and outlawed by Israel, using accounts registered in major local South African banks: Standard Bank, Nedbank, and Absa.” Moreover, after the October 7th attacks, a delegation of senior Hamas officials [visited](#) South Africa for a global “solidarity” gathering held from December 3-5, 2023.

The evidence South Africa presented to the court was misleading, relying upon inflammatory and out of context statements, demonstrably false claims, and gross misrepresentations of Israel's actions. Israel is acting in accordance with international law as it is waging a war of self-defense against Hamas, an antisemitic terror group with explicitly genocidal aims. Even the ICJ ruled against imposing a ceasefire on January 26, 2024 when it rejected the demand to order a “ceasefire.”

RESOLVED, Foothill College Academic Senate calls for an immediate and permanent humanitarian ceasefire in Gaza, the release of all Israeli¹⁶ and Palestinian hostages,¹⁷ the immediate and safe passage of substantial humanitarian aid to the Palestinian people, and the immediate restoration of basic services, water, electricity, and fuel access to protect the health and well being of children and their families.

Counterpoint: all calls for a ceasefire must also include a call for the surrender of Hamas, whose leaders have repeatedly declared their intention to commit atrocities similar to October 7th over and over until Israel is destroyed. That is the only way we can ensure a better future for both Israelis and Palestinians.

Palestinian Prisoners

***Counterpoint:** Palestinians held in Israeli prisons have been convicted or arrested for engaging in violence or terror-related offenses. However, in order to free Israeli civilian hostages in the November ceasefire deal, the Israeli government released over when over 60 prisoners held for violent crimes, including attempted murder, shootings, and stabbings. In cases of administrative detention (a tool endorsed by the Global Counterterrorism Forum), Israeli law includes multiple safeguards. Every detention order is reviewed by courts, detainees are brought before a military judge within eight days of their arrest and have the right to legal counsel and to appeal all the way up to the Supreme Court.*

Israeli Aid to Gaza

***Counterpoint:** Hamas terrorists kidnapped 253 Israeli civilians, including women, children and the elderly. Even though Hamas still holds an estimated 132 people hostage, **Israel has coordinated the delivery of nearly 303,930 tons of aid to civilians in Gaza (as of March 11th)**.*

Examples of the Israeli government and IDF coordinating with other governments to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian aid and construction of field hospitals to Gaza include:

- *Two airdrops by the Jordanian Air Force of medical aid coordinated with the IDF (November 5 and November 12)*
- *Additional airdrops of humanitarian aid by Jordan and France in January.*
- *Multiple field hospitals have been set up in Gaza and Egypt by Jordan, the UAE, Egypt, and Türkiye. Jordan sent 180 doctors and nurses to staff the hospital. France, Italy and Indonesia have sent hospital ships to the region.*
- *As of January, several field hospitals were operating in Gaza, including Jordanian, American, and Emirati hospitals. These are coordinated with the IDF. Israel has also facilitated the entrance of medical teams and medical supplies into Gaza from numerous organizations and countries.*

Before Hamas declared war by massacring Israeli civilians, Israel was delivering thousands of tons of food, medical supplies, and other aid to Gaza every single week. Israel has also allowed tens of thousands of Gazans to travel to Israeli hospitals for medical care, and given more water than required under international agreements. Furthermore, Israel was providing 50% of Gaza's electricity for free, according to Professor Elai Rettig, Head of the Energy Division at the Begin-Sadat Center. The rest was generated locally in Gaza.

Israeli deliveries of water represent a very small portion of Gaza's total water supply, according to the NGO EcoPeace Middle East. However, Gaza's water infrastructure has been harmed by Hamas mismanagement, their endless war against Israel, and their terrorists digging up water pipes and using them to build rockets.

The only way to ensure a lasting peace that allows Gaza to be rebuilt without risk of future destructive wars is for Hamas to release all hostages and end its control over the territory.

RESOLVED, We demand that US taxpayer funds be used to prevent further loss of life and be invested in our nation's educational system.

On US Aid to Israel

Opinion polls show that Americans overestimate how much foreign aid America gives. Foreign aid is around 1% of America's federal budget and is spent in over 200 countries. Foreign aid is not given at the expense of American schools, healthcare, or other social services. The federal budget is divided into two categories; mandatory and discretionary spending. Two-thirds of spending is mandatory, and the rest is discretionary. Discretionary spending includes America's foreign aid budget, and it must be approved each year by Congress and the President.

Israel is an important strategic and economic asset and is America's strongest ally in the Middle East. Israel and the U.S. share fundamental values, and the relationship provides mutual benefits in trade, intelligence sharing, research and development, and diplomacy. America's close relationship with Israel has facilitated its role in building diplomatic relations between Israel and its neighbors, as with the 2020 Abraham Accords. Aid to Israel also benefits the U.S. economy. Israeli businesses have invested over \$60 billion in the U.S. because Israel is required to spend the majority of the aid it receives in the U.S. This provides contracts worth billions of dollars and has created jobs for thousands of Americans.

Ending aid to Israel would not "prevent further loss of life" for anyone or result in more funding for the educational system. It would harm the American economy and increase the chance of even more horrific wars as Iran's regime and the genocidal terrorist groups it arms may see Israel as weaker and more vulnerable to attack. Ending US aid to Israel that funds the Iron Dome, Israel's missile defense system, would also result in the death of more innocent Israelis of all backgrounds. Importantly, the US also gives a substantial amount of aid to Palestinians.

Conclusion

- *This resolution discusses the tragic devastation in Gaza during the ongoing Hamas-Israel war, as if it is entirely Israel's fault. In doing so, it ignores the many steps Israel has taken to avoid harming civilians in Gaza. This includes coordinating over 16,000 trucks of humanitarian aid and creating humanitarian corridors for innocent civilians to evacuate to safer areas. Meanwhile, Hamas has intentionally put Gazan civilians in harm's way by building tunnels under hospitals, schools, and neighborhoods, firing rockets, and militarizing civilian buildings in other ways.*

- *There is no moral equivalency between the two sides of this war. Hamas intentionally and gleefully tortures, rapes, and massacres innocent people. On the other hand, the Israel Defense Forces target Hamas and take active steps to avoid harming civilians.*
- *The deaths of civilians in Gaza are horrific and tragic. If our goal is to help end this violence, blaming Israel alone and shielding Hamas from its responsibility to protect innocent life will do the opposite. We would simply be sending a message that Hamas should keep committing atrocities against Israeli and Palestinian civilians, because the world will just blame Israel for it.*
- *The October 7th massacre was the deadliest day for Jews since the Holocaust. Jewish, Israeli, and Zionist students are in mourning. A resolution attempting to minimize or ignore the brutality that Israelis experienced would communicate that Foothill AS not care about them and is willing to help the cause of those who murdered their friends and family.*
- *This resolution calls for an “end to violence,” but only addresses its call towards Israel: the country which is acting in self-defense and employing unprecedented means to prevent civilian casualties, and not Hamas, a terrorist organization who specifically targets civilians, uses civilians as human shields, and is holding over a hundred Israelis hostage at this very moment. Passing this biased and misleading resolution that is laden with inaccurate statements would harm our college and entire student body, as it would send a message to the world that we have lost our moral compass. Vote no, first out of basic respect for the Israeli civilians who were slaughtered by Hamas, and second to keep our college on the right side of history.*

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Subject: Vote NO on inflammatory resolutions about the Israel Hamas War
Date: Thursday, March 14, 2024 at 11:12:38 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Gideon Intrater
To: Voltaire Villanueva, Patrick Ahrens, Laura Casas, Pearl Cheng, Peter Landsberger, Gilbert Wong, De Anza Student Trustee

This Message Is From an Untrusted Sender

You have not previously corresponded with this sender.

Dear President Villanueva and esteemed members of the Foothill Academic Senate,

As a local community member, I wish to voice my opposition to the resolution on the Israel-Hamas War that will go up for a vote at Monday's Academic Senate meeting.

It is not the place or the purview of the Academic Senate to issue resolutions on complex geopolitical issues. These resolutions only serve to create division, encourage hate speech, and foster unsafe environments for all.

Furthermore, the resolution entitled "Resolution Recognizing Sustained Peace and Safety for All Students" does not address the concerns of Jewish students. Indicating that the resolution was not in fact drafted on behalf of all students. Any resolution, if one must be passed, should name and condemn the brutal attacks committed by Hamas on October 7. This was the deadliest single day for the global Jewish community since the Holocaust. Hamas is a terrorist organization whose charter clearly states its commitment to kill Jews and annihilate Israel and the leaders of Hamas have publicly stated their intent to seek to repeat the bloodletting.

Additionally, the resolution provides a one-sided and unbalanced assessment of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Worse, it doesn't even mention the Israeli community as an important and equal part of the Foothill College community.

Instead of amplifying hate and division, we urge you to lead with empathy and ensure all students, families, faculty, and staff of Foothill College feel supported and welcomed. The ongoing war between Israel and Hamas has impacted so many members of our community, and non-binding resolutions will not bring peace. During times of crisis, elected leaders must work to bring people together – not tear us apart.

Sincerely,

Gideon Intrater
Community member and a parent of a former student

Subject: Vote NO on inflammatory resolutions about the Israel Hamas War
Date: Thursday, March 14, 2024 at 6:00:03 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Rachel Tirosh
To: Voltaire Villanueva, Patrick Ahrens, Laura Casas, Pearl Cheng, Peter Landsberger, Gilbert Wong, De Anza Student Trustee

This Message Is From an Untrusted Sender

You have not previously corresponded with this sender.

Dear President Villanueva and esteemed members of the Foothill Academic Senate,

As a local community member, I wish to voice my opposition to the resolution on the Israel-Hamas War that will go up for a vote at Monday's Academic Senate meeting.

It is not the place or the purview of the Academic Senate to issue resolutions on complex geopolitical issues. These resolutions only serve to create division, encourage hate speech, and foster unsafe environments for all.

Furthermore, the resolution entitled "Resolution Recognizing Sustained Peace and Safety for All Students" does not address the concerns of Jewish students. Indicating that the resolution was not in fact drafted on behalf of all students. Any resolution, if one must be passed, should name and condemn the brutal attacks committed by Hamas on October 7. This was the deadliest single day for the global Jewish community since the Holocaust. Hamas is a terrorist organization whose charter clearly states its commitment to kill Jews and annihilate Israel and the leaders of Hamas have publicly stated their intent to seek to repeat the bloodletting.

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Instead of amplifying hate and division, we urge you to lead with empathy and ensure all students, families, faculty, and staff of Foothill College feel supported and welcomed. The ongoing war between Israel and Hamas has impacted so many members of our community, and non-binding resolutions will not bring peace. During times of crisis, elected leaders must work to bring people together – not tear us apart.

Regards

Rachel Tirosh

Former student at the college