

1 [Supporting University of San Francisco Workers United During COVID-19]

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3 **Resolution supporting USF Workers United, a broad coalition of workers and faculty**  
4 **members at the University of San Francisco, drastically affected by furloughs, cuts in**  
5 **healthcare and employment benefits, and lack of safety protocols during COVID-19.**

6

7 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco is currently experiencing an  
8 outbreak of the coronavirus (COVID-19) which has been deemed a pandemic by the World  
9 Health Organization; and

10 WHEREAS, On March 6, 2020, the San Francisco Health Officer issued a Declaration  
11 of Local Health Emergency Regarding Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19), which was  
12 preceded by a March 4, 2020, Proclamation of a State of Emergency issued by Governor  
13 Gavin Newsom and a February 25, 2020, Proclamation by the Mayor Declaring the Existence  
14 of a Local Emergency; and

15 WHEREAS, On March 16, 2020, the San Francisco Health Officer issued Order  
16 No. C19-07, commonly referred to as *Shelter in Place*, directing all individuals living in the City  
17 and County of San Francisco to shelter in place at their residence with limited exceptions; and

18 WHEREAS, The University of San Francisco (USF) Workers United is comprised of a  
19 broad coalition of workers standing in solidarity during this pandemic to protect the well-being  
20 and future of their workers, faculty and students; and

21 WHEREAS, OPEIU Local 29 represents approximately 6,000 people, who work as  
22 office and technical employees at USF; these members have been disproportionately  
23 furloughed, which has led to cuts in income while being held accountable to the same work  
24 product; and

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1           WHEREAS, SEIU Local 87 represents approximately 4,000 people, and those who  
2 work as janitors at USF; and most of the workforce is furloughed; and

3           WHEREAS, Local 2 represents approximately 14,000 people, and those who work in  
4 hospitality in USF have been furloughed; and

5           WHEREAS, SEIU USWW represents approximately 40,000 thousand people, and the  
6 service workers at USF as well as most of the campus laborers and gardeners are furloughed;  
7 and

8           WHEREAS, USF Faculty Association represents the approximately 486 non-law school  
9 faculty who work at USF; and have taken salary cuts to prevent layoffs; and

10           WHEREAS, The USF Part Time Faculty Association represents approximately 661  
11 adjuncts from the spring 2020 semester and a pool of 1,000+ adjunct faculty who have taught  
12 at USF in the last two years, who are currently awaiting a final fall 2020 schedule update to  
13 learn if raised class cap sizes, delayed opportunities for sabbatical leave of full-time faculty,  
14 and enrollment drops have resulted in loss of employment and subsequent access to  
15 healthcare; and

16           WHEREAS, Members of the service worker industry in hospitality and leisure are  
17 experiencing an unemployment rate of 28.9%, according to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics;  
18 and

19           WHEREAS, According to the Washington Post, the Black and Latinx communities are  
20 disproportionately affected by furloughs, while the White unemployment rate is around 10%,  
21 Black and Lantinx unemployment rates are 15.4% and 14.5%, respectively, according to the  
22 Bureau of Labor Statistics; and

23           WHEREAS, Employees earning less than \$20 per hour were 115% more likely than  
24 those making \$30 an hour or more to be laid off, low-wage workers are six times less likely to  
25 be able to work from home than high-income workers; and

1           WHEREAS, Workers who have been partially furloughed and are working reduced  
2 hours may not be able to qualify for UI wage replacement, effectively meaning that they are  
3 taking a wage cut; and struggling to survive in the Bay Area; and

4           WHEREAS, According to the New York Times, 36,000,000 people filed unemployment  
5 claims in a two-month period as a direct result of COVID-19; and

6           WHEREAS, 1,400,000 million people filed for unemployment just last week, the 19th  
7 consecutive week of more than a million unemployment applications; and

8           WHEREAS, The Bureau of Economic Analysis confirms back-to-back fiscal quarters of  
9 marked economic decline, including a decrease in GDP of more than 32% last quarter, a clear  
10 indicator of what the Washington post describes as the “fastest recession in US history;” and

11           WHEREAS, Families all over the nation and within the City and County of San  
12 Francisco are detrimentally affected by this recession, and millions of workers have been laid  
13 off or furloughed; now, therefore, be it

14           RESOLVED, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors reaffirms its commitment to USF  
15 Workers United in order to combat the spread of COVID-19 and maintain the health and  
16 safety of the service professionals who risk their lives for well-being of others; and, be it

17           FURTHER RESOLVED, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors reaffirms its  
18 commitment to USF Workers United and requests that the University act in good faith to  
19 protect the health and safety of all USF communities by prioritizing the following:

- 20           1) Continue to offer access to affordable health care for USF community members who  
21           have been laid off, furloughed, or have lost teaching opportunities because of the  
22           pandemic;
- 23           2) Negotiating with all bargaining units the necessary conditions for a safe return to  
24           campus;
- 25           3) Understanding and observing custodians’ recommendations for a safe re-opening;

1 4) Prioritizing the protection of all USF community members, including workers and, of  
2 course, students; and, be it

3 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, no later than 30  
4 days after the passage of this Resolution, shall transmit copies of this Resolution to the  
5 following people at the University of San Francisco, President: Paul Fitzgerald; Interim  
6 Provost: Tyrone H. Cannon; Interim Vice Provost: Pamela Balls Organista; VP Finance:  
7 Charlie Cross.