

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY CHANNEL ISLANDS

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY CHANNEL ISLANDS * 1 UNIVERSITY DRIVE * CAMARILLO, CA 93012 STUDENTGOVT.CSUCI.EDU * SGASI@CSUCI.EDU * (805) 437-2734

Support for Students' Right to Freedom of Expression & Safety May 13th, 2024

Dear Students,

Given the ongoing student movements across the state, nation, and on our campus, it is important that Student Government and our University emphasize our mission to place students at the center of their educational experience at CSU Channel Islands. Student Government wants to reaffirm students' right to free speech and safety, and ask that their rights are respected and supported on our campus.

Upon meeting with students participating in the encampment in Central Mall, Student Government would also like to acknowledge the strength and commitment of students who participate in student-led demonstrations that bring about peace, awareness, and change. As the recognized voice of students at CSU Channel Islands, we invite students to share their concerns and stories with us as we uphold our mission and reaffirm students' right to free speech and safety.

Student Government would also like to reiterate our statement published on October 13th, 2024. Student Government embraces a diverse range of perspectives. It is important to foster an environment where we respect differences and at all times value human life. We stand for peace and compassion. We do not endorse acts of violence, racism, or terrorism from any entity, whether it be on a global scale or in our local communities. We prioritize the peaceful resolution of conflicts where human lives are at stake. We urge our fellow students to be mindful of the messages we share. Let us continue to work together to create an inclusive, safe, and compassionate campus where we can discuss and learn from different viewpoints while respecting the value of human life and human rights.

We encourage the University, its administration, its staff, and its faculty to be mindful of student needs and respect their right to free speech and safety. This can be accomplished by meeting with student organizers, providing grace periods for assignments for students who are affected, and continuing to provide a safe environment that supports students.

Times of uncertainty can pose a significant impact on a student's mental health and we encourage students to utilize resources that can support them during this time such as CAPS (Counseling and Psychological Services). We also encourage students to meet with the University Ombudsman, who serves to assist members of the campus navigate, manage, prevent, and resolve conflict, and work through policies in a manner that is off-the-record, independent, impartial, and confidential.

We discourage the use of police force in response to peaceful demonstrations. We urge our campus to reference Sacramento State's President's approach to engagement with students as an example of peaceful and active listening that CSU campuses are capable of.

We discourage the use of any sentiments that mischaracterize the peaceful demonstration. Student Government stands firm in our support of students who organize peacefully, and encourages this same support amongst all members of our University.

As the representative voice for all students at CSU Channel Islands, Student Government will continue to meet with students and University administration, uphold our mission statement and stand in support of peaceful student-led demonstrations.

I, Student Government Vice President

CAPS

CAPS@csuci.edu

Front Office Number: 805-437-2088 24/7 Crisis Support Line: 855-854-1747

Website: csuci.edu/caps/

University Ombudsman Phone: 805-437-3283

Location: Solano Hall Room 2162

Website: csuci.edu/ombuds/

In solidarity,

Daisy Navarrete
ASI, Student Government President