



Resolved Commitment to Native Plants Landscaping at the University of San Francisco

Whereas: there are a majority of plants that are not native to California on the campus of the University of San Francisco, these plants are being constantly replanted because they struggle to survive in San Francisco's climate and facilities strives to keep campus aesthetically pleasing for students and visitors.

Whereas: plants described above require special attention and more labor from USF facilities. Examples include, the yellow chrysanthemums planted under the trees to the left of gleeson plaza that need to be changed every 2 months *, the purple cabbages on the Lone Mountain walkway that are purely decorative, and

Whereas: the Palm trees that line the Lone Mountain Drive struggle to survive, requiring large amounts of water and attention from facilities to survive.

Whereas: a **Native plant** is an indigenous plant of a given area in geologic time. This includes plants that have developed, occur naturally, or existed for many years in an area.

Whereas: in a balanced ecosystem, native plants are the foundation of a biodiverse living community. They are the basis of an interdependent community of plants, pollinating insects, butterflies, moths, local and migrating birds/mammals; and

Whereas: USF has been designated a Bee Campus USA where we are encouraged to reduce the use of pesticides and increase the planting of pollinator friendly plants, particularly native plants; and

Whereas: an overreliance on the use of pesticides, such as roundup and glyphosate, and fertilizers is harmful to pollinators and our ecosystem; and

Whereas: there has been discussion on the importance of sustainability and its addition to the mission and values of the University of San Francisco; and



Whereas: conservation of water, to include reducing the demand for irrigation, is a goal of all members of the USF community; and

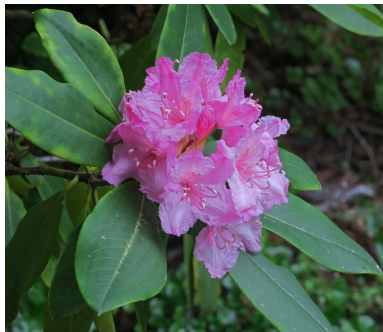
Whereas: the cost of water used for irrigation will increase each year and such increases directly factor into the rising cost of tuition; and

Whereas: Karolina Zovak, a junior at the University of San Francisco, states, “I would like it if the school planted more native flowers, I would rather have our money going towards something sustainable than something that just there for no real reason. Sustainability is becoming really important because of the fires and drought, this could really help our school do its part for the environment.”

Whereas: natives plants are capable of maintaining the aesthetic and color of USF’s campus, as evidenced by the pictured examples listed below:



Yellow Pansy



California Rhododendron
(by Fromm hall already)



Lupine



Poached egg plant



Douglas Iris



California Poppy

Whereas: climate change has increased the potential for longer periods of drought, as we have seen in recent California history; and

Whereas: in 12 of the last 20 years, California has experienced moderate or worse drought conditions across approximately half or more of the state at the beginning of the water year.

Whereas: native plants can help counter the effects of climate change by reducing the demand for irrigation while still providing attractive green spaces; and

Whereas: the California Native Plant Society supports native plants on the USF campus; and

Whereas: the Lone Mountain campus prides itself on being a haven for native plants; and

Whereas: in previous years, facilities has reduced irrigation water consumption by 42%* by cutting back on irrigation and introducing more native plants to campus, some being located in the roof top garden on the Harney building.

* data collected from the USFCA Department of Facilities

Be it resolved by the Associated Students of the University of San Francisco, representing all the undergraduates of the University; that USF Facilities Department will implement a policy, effective beginning January 1st, 2020, wherein plants which die and need to be replaced



will exclusively be replaced by only native plants on both the Lone Mountain and Hilltop campus;

Resolved; plants that are not native but serve a purpose on campus such as the Koret Rose Garden, the community garden on Lone Mountain will be exempt from this resolution so as to mitigate the impacts the implementation process on campus.

Submitted by: Chloe Famighetti, Sophomore Representative

Supported by: The California Native Plants Society