



Sustainable Redevelopment of University Center Patio

Resolution 22-23-17

Whereas: a core Jesuit value of the University of San Francisco is *cura personalis* - care of the whole person, meaning that our physical, mental, emotional, intellectual, social, environmental, and spiritual health are integral to our success as a USF student; and

Whereas: the University Center Patio is defined as the open outside area on the Third Floor of the University Center that wraps around the building, excluding the tiled flooring of Privett Plaza (Appendix I); and

Whereas: the University of San Francisco commits itself to sustainability and greenery on campus, in line with our progressive values and Pope Francis's 2015 *Laudato Si': On Care for our Common Home*; in particular, the 2027 Strategic Plan calls on the University to “reimagine Jesuit education to accelerate the achievement of a more just and sustainable world;” and

Whereas: the University's *Building Green* strategy includes the incorporation and construction of green spaces on campus, which ASUSF Senate has contributed towards via a donation to the USF Community Garden and other campus greenery projects;¹ and

Whereas: the University established the One Earth Initiative Working Group to develop concrete plans to advance sustainability goals, including “community engagement and participatory action”, with one of the focuses on improving USF's “infrastructure and facilities,”² and

Whereas: studies have shown that there is a significant correlation between the usage of green spaces on university campuses and the perceived quality of life of students;³ and

Whereas: the current University Center Patio space remains a sparsely used area on campus with chairs remaining stacked for the majority of the day, regardless of the weather; and

Whereas: a redeveloped University Center Patio would enhance the quality of life and mental health well-being of students; and

¹ [University of San Francisco Sustainability Brochure](#)

² [University of San Francisco One Earth Initiative](#)

³ [McFarland, Waliczek, Zajicek \(2008\)](#)



Whereas: in 2010, the ASUSF Senate passed Resolution 09-10-03 approving “*The Green Initiative Fund for Tomorrow*,” stating that:

*“The Green Initiative Fund for Tomorrow (GIFT) will use money obtained from \$2.00 in student activity fees to fund sustainable initiatives at the University of San Francisco. GIFT was approved by the student population of the University of San Francisco in the ASUSF Senate elections in Spring 2010,”*⁴

to establish a “*dedicated fund for environmental sustainability efforts on campus;*”⁵ and

Whereas: the Green Initiative Fund for Tomorrow (GIFT) Fund has been used to fund EcoStations⁶, water meters⁷, and the Peace Garden⁸, amongst many other projects; and

Whereas: the allocation of the Green Initiative Fund for Tomorrow (GIFT) is intended to initiate the redevelopment project, with further fundraising and corresponding outreach as the responsibility and at the discretion of the Commission⁹; and

Whereas: in 2019, the ASUSF Senate passed Resolution 19-20-05 approving the “*Commitment to Native Plants Landscaping at the University of San Francisco*,” where non-native plants will “*exclusively be replaced by only native plants*”¹⁰ on campus;” therefore, be it

Resolved by the Associated Students of the University of San Francisco Senate in its role as the sole representative body of all the undergraduate students of the University of San Francisco, that the following be enacted:

Resolved: the University Center Patio be redeveloped into a green space, with the specific parameters for the redevelopment left for the discretion of the Commission; furthermore, be it

Resolved: the ASUSF Senate approves an allocation of a maximum of \$20,000 of the Green Initiative Fund for Tomorrow (GIFT) from financial year 2023-24 to fund the redevelopment of the University Center Patio; furthermore, be it

⁴ [Associated Students of the University of San Francisco Senate Resolution 09-10-03](#)

⁵ [Associated Students of the University of San Francisco Senate Operating Budget](#)

⁶ [Associated Students of the University of San Francisco Senate Resolution 15-16-04](#)

⁷ [Associated Students of the University of San Francisco Senate Resolution 16-17-12](#)

⁸ [Associated Students of the University of San Francisco Senate Resolution 16-17-17](#)

⁹ Refer to the third resolved clause of this resolution

¹⁰ [Associated Students of the University of San Francisco Senate Resolution 19-20-05](#)



Resolved: representatives from the ASUSF Advocacy Committee and Finance Committee form an ad-hoc commission with University of San Francisco Facilities Management, and in consultation with other student organizations, such as the Environmental Engineering and Science Club, facilitate the implementation of this resolution; furthermore, be it

Resolved: in pursuant of Resolution 19-20-05, only native plants be used for the redevelopment; furthermore, be it

Resolved: the aforementioned commission take into consideration the carbon footprint and environmental impact of the redevelopment, and seek remedial measures to mitigate, minimize, and offset the negative impacts thereof.

Submitted by:

Ryan Mak, *At-Large Pre-Law Representative*

Kiannah-Nicole Karani, *Freshman Class Representative*

Supported by:

Lester Deanes, *Assistant Vice President, Student Engagement*

Gerald Kuperus, *Tri-Chair, One Earth Initiative Working Group*

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Levi Kottut, *President, Organization of Engineering Students*

Kate Farber, *President, Environmental Engineering and Science Club*

Presented to the Senate on:

April 19, 2023

Passed by the Senate on:

May 3, 2023

Signed by:

Ethan Lee-Bellows,
ASUSF President



Appendix I: University Center Third Floor Wrap-Around Patio

