# THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH

Bill Number: Bylaw Amendment # 2016-01

Title: Bylaw Amendment to Create the Cabinet Position of Secretary for

**International Student Affairs** 

Sponsored by: Senator for the College of Health and Human Services Senator Fatima Hasan, Senator -

at-Large College Nicole Estanol, Senators for the College of Business Administration

Leslie Garcia and Rainbow Sun

Date Submitted: November 20, 2015
Date Approved: February 10, 2016

WHEREAS the Associated Students, Inc. (ASI) at California State University, Long Beach (CSULB) is the single

recognized voice for over 37,000 students of the university; and

WHEREAS the ASI Senate serves as the Board of Directors for the corporation, and implements its authority

as the legislative branch, voicing students' needs and interests to fulfill the mission of students

self-governance; and

WHEREAS our campus mission statement fosters "a diverse, student-centered, globally-engaged public

university committed to providing highly-valued undergraduate and graduate educational opportunities through superior teaching, research, creative activity and service for the people of

California and the world,"; and

WHEREAS In Fall 2015, CSULB had over 2,900 international students from 95 countries, which accounted

for 3.68% of undergraduates and 15.5% of graduates; and

WHEREAS International students include but are not limited to graduate, undergraduate students from a

foreign country on legal U.S. visa (F-1 and J-1) or a direct exchange program; and

WHEREAS International student issues include but are not limited to difficulty assimilating into CSULB,

Long Beach, and the American culture with regards to financial management; navigating the healthcare system; limited counseling and psychological services; understanding transportation and utility services; lack of employment opportunities; and difficulty maintaining status due to

full classes; and

WHEREAS International students do not qualify for federal financial aid and pay out of state tuition; and

WHEREAS CSULB requires "all F-1 international students and J-1 exchange students to purchase and

maintain adequate health insurance coverage prior to registering for classes" otherwise they are unable to register for classes. International students generally have difficulties understanding

coverage and may rely on services provided by the Student Health Center; and

WHEREAS International students have specific restrictions in terms of employment both on and off

campus, specifically "on-campus employment for F-1 international students is limited to 20 hours a week (part-time) during the fall and spring semesters and 40 hours a week (full-time)

during summer and winter sessions,"; and

WHEREAS Work opportunities off-campus are strictly regulated forcing international students to seek

approval from a Designated Student Official (DSO), apply for social security card, meet eligibility requirements, and get approved for Curricular Practical Training (CPT) and Occupational

Practical Training (OPT); and

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## WHEREAS

CPT is defined as "work/study, internship, cooperative education, or any other type of required internship or practicum that is offered by sponsoring employers through cooperative agreements with the school (Revised effective 1/1/03; 67 FR 76256), and in practical terms, 'integral part of an established curriculum' means an opportunity must be required by the curriculum or, if not required, the student must receive credit for the training,"; and

#### WHEREAS

OPT is "authorized to an F-1 student for 12 months of employment directly related to his or her major area of study. The student becomes eligible for another 12 months of practical training when he or she changes to a higher educational level. Students in English language training programs are *ineligible* for practical training. The student may not begin OPT until the date indicated on his or her employment authorization document (EAD), Form I-766;" and

### WHEREAS

International Students must maintain student status that is in compliance with United States regulations, specifically international students need to be enrolled in a minimum of 12 units as undergraduate and 8 units as graduates during the Fall and Spring Semester, and reduced course load is only possible through prior approval by the Center for International Education; now, therefore, be it

### **RESOLVED**

that the Associated Students supports the creation of the new cabinet position of Secretary for International Student Affairs that can serve as a facilitator to guide students to resources on campus and be their student representative in university affairs; and be it further

#### RESOLVED

The federal regulations involving student visa status are complex, and the Secretary shall be a liaison between international students and the different entities that govern them; and be it further

## RESOLVED

that the Board of Directors of the Associated Students at California State University, Long Beach hereby approve and adopt a bylaw amendment to Chapter II, Article II, Section 2 B of the Associated Student Bylaws to add the following:

## 10. Secretary for International Student Affair

The Secretary of International Student Affairs shall be the secretary responsible for representing the perspective of International Students and increasing awareness and inclusivity in the development of programs and services within ASI, university affairs, and the campus community.

## Duties:

- a) To address student concerns and work with entities that encompass international education including but not limited to Center for International Education, College of Continuing and Professional Education direct exchange, American Language Institute, Alumni Association, Study Abroad at the Beach students and international student clubs.
- b) To serve as the student representative on the International Education Committee, Global Cafe Steering Committee and other committees related to international education or assist in the recruitment of students for said committees.
- c) To coordinate International Ally training annually for ASI leaders and campus community.
- d) To collaborate with Student Health Center to create workshops about health insurance coverage and providing information about services offered during the international student orientation.

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- e) To work with the Study Abroad at the Beach, American Language Institute, Center for International Education and the Multicultural Center to create a mentorship program for international students
- f) To work with the Career Development Center and the Center for International Education to create more internship and job opportunities for international students.
- g) To work with the Deans of all colleges to create internship classes to allow international students to enroll in Curricular Practical Training.
- h) To organize and attend meetings between CIE and College department chairs to discuss rules and regulations pertaining to international students primarily CPT and OPT.
- i) The secretary shall report to the senate at least twice per semester.
- j) To create a binder containing tasks completed, in progress and to be worked on, and transfer it to the ASI President at the end of term.

Miriam Hernandez, Vice President & Chair Associated Students Board of Directors

Delivered to the President of the Associated Students on:

2/10/16 Date

Date