



UNIVERSITY
of HAWAII
MĀNOA

May 9, 2016

Office of the President
Academic Affairs and the Office of the Provost
San Francisco State University
1600 Holloway Avenue, Administration Building 562
San Francisco, CA 94132

Dear President Wong and Provost Rosser:

The Department of Ethnic Studies at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa expresses its strong support and solidarity with the College of Ethnic Studies and the students of the Third World Liberation Front 2016 at San Francisco State University (SFSU) who have gone on a hunger strike to protest the proposed draconian measures aimed at dismantling the only College of Ethnic Studies in the academy. The students' defiant and determined efforts to maintain control of their university are a much-needed response to the devastating budget cuts that threaten the future of public education across the nation. Their protest renews the legacy of resistance begun by the five and a half month long student strike that first established Ethnic Studies at San Francisco State University in 1969. Their commitment reminds us of the true value of an education rooted in social justice, which can have a transformative impact on a new generation of leaders who are taught that knowledge should be used for more than just turning a profit. We call on the SFSU administration to meet the demands of the Third World Liberation Front 2016 and end this hunger strike, thereby retaining its support for the College as the world's leader in Ethnic Studies scholarship, teaching, and activism.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ty P. Kāwika Tengan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ty P. Kāwika Tengan, Chair
Department of Ethnic Studies
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa