President Wong:

We write to express our support for the College of Ethnic Studies and its efforts to remain vital. The College of Ethnic Studies contributes multiple intellectual benefits that span the gamut from teaching to research to community connections. Our College’s focus on social justice is rendered more meaningful by the presence of the College of Ethnic Studies. Our students benefit by feeling a greater sense of belongingness, agency, and understanding of the socio-historical circumstances of their own ethnic heritage, and deeper understanding of other groups. This not only increases their chances of success as students, but as citizens of the world. As Dean Monteiro aptly illustrates in his letter, the benefits of a robust College of Ethnic Studies spill well past our campus boundaries. The College is a cornerstone of the history and future of San Francisco State University.

We appreciate the efforts of Provost Rosser and Vice President Cortez to put the University on firm financial ground. Dean Monteiro’s courageous wake-up call and his desire for more "transparent, reliable and meaningful budgetary data" resonate with us. We see this as encouraging the efforts of the Provost and Vice President, not contradicting them. We understand your release of emergency funds to the College of Ethnic Studies as a rethinking of University priorities, not as a retreat from financial responsibility.

We stand ready with our colleagues to help move our campus forward in a direction beneficial to the College of Ethnic Studies and therefore us all.