RESOLUTION OPPOSING AND CONDEMNING BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL

The following resolution is presented by Trustees Svonkin, Santiago, and Veres:

WHEREAS, The Los Angeles Community College District, its Governing Board, all nine Colleges, our faculty, staff and students believe that academic freedom and the intellectual exchange of ideas are a fundamental core value; and

WHEREAS, We find it objectionable for the American Studies Association (ASA) to urge the support of a boycott of Israeli universities or any foreign universities; and

WHEREAS, Academic boycotts violate principles of academic freedom and intellectual exchange; and

WHEREAS, The ASA boycott of Israeli universities is a repugnant attack on academic freedom, declaring academic institutions off-limits because of their national affiliation; and

WHEREAS, We find it objectionable for any educational or scholarly organization to single out one country for a boycott, especially a democratic nation such as Israel that has welcomed a number of Israeli Arab and Palestinian students into its universities; and

WHEREAS, We find the ASA’S boycott even more objectionable given that many other nations in the region and around the world have much more troubling records when it comes to academic exclusion, including many nations that bar large numbers of their nation’s residents from educational inclusion due to race, class, gender, national affiliation, or sexual or religious status; and

WHEREAS, We believe that there should be more, not less, exchange between Israeli and United States scholars, and between United States and foreign scholars in general; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Los Angeles Community College District hereby calls upon the membership of the American Studies Association to rescind its boycott of Israel; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we ask the University of California Board of Regents, the California State University Board of Governors, and the California Community Colleges Board of Governors to join us in opposing the ASA boycott; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we call upon other academic organizations, colleges, and universities to condemn this unfair and biased assault on academic freedom and intellectual exchange.

Chancellor and
Secretary of the Board of Trustees

By__________________________ Date__________________________

Eng.________________________ Santiago________________________
Field________________________ Svonkin________________________
Moreno______________________ Veres__________________________
Pearlman____________________ Griggs__________________________
Student Trustee Advisory Vote