WHEREAS, Associated Students, Incorporated (ASI) of California State University, East Bay (CSUEB) is the recognized voice of approximately 12,500 students; and

WHEREAS, it is the mission of the ASI Board of Directors to advocate and provide responsible and effective leadership for a diverse student population to make sound decisions for the betterment of CSUEB students; and

WHEREAS, the California State University East Bay Athletic Department, Pioneer Athletics, strives to fulfill the educational mission of the university while providing unique opportunities for personal growth and success outside of the classroom; and

WHEREAS, Women’s Water Polo at CSUEB has significantly enriched the community through notable contributions, including a remarkable 14-5 victory that propelled them to the Western Water Polo Association (WWPA) semifinals in Spring 2024; and

WHEREAS, Women’s Water Polo at CSUEB is not a NCAA DII-sponsored sport, and only 10 Division 2 institutions nationally sponsor the sport;

WHEREAS, Director of Athletics Allison Kern has announced the discontinuation of Women’s Water Polo to compensate for enrollment shortfalls at CSUEB, along with a press release on May 8 at 12:30pm; and

WHEREAS, Water Polo Head Coach, Lisa Cooper, returning Water Polo students, and the CSUEB Student Athlete Advisory Committee were not informed and consulted prior to the announcement in May; and

WHEREAS, CSUEB Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) consists of two representatives from each of the university's 15 intercollegiate sports with a mission to promote communication between athletics administration and student-athletes, disseminate information to athletes, promote athletic events on campus, and provides feedback and insight into athletics department issues to generate a student-athlete voice within the campus and the athletics department's formulation of policies; and

WHEREAS, Women’s Water Polo have publicly addressed their concerns about the discontinuance of their program and have released a petition to reinstate Women’s Water Polo; and

WHEREAS, the decision of Women’s Water Polo was made during finals week which caused added stress for the Water Polo players; and

WHEREAS, Athletes from the Water Polo team knew that their scholarship commitment would be honored through graduation if they decide to stay enrolled at Cal State East Bay, but were given no other guidance on their status as athletes; be it

RESOLVED, ASI urges the University Administration and Director of Athletics to reconsider their decision to discontinue the Water Polo team and explore other opportunities of supporting Women’s Water Polo financially; and let it be further

RESOLVED, ASI implores University Administration includes coaches, students athletes, and advisors in decisions that remove athletic programs; and let it be further

RESOLVED, Administration does not make any major announcements that affect student programs during times when students are highly academically-focused; and let it be further

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4 https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScvlvmI3frIrqjTaTc6zNbsTAWw7JwIfAVBYWjhRty3psOwA/viewform
RESOLVED, Athletics invites SAAC on future discussions that involve cuts to other athletic programs, budget reallocations, and future directions related meetings of Cal State East Bay Pioneers; and let it be therefore

RESOLVED, CSUEB Athletic Department provides a budget breakdown to the CSUEB community as to what led them to discontinuing Women’s Water Polo; and let it be further

RESOLVED, CSUEB Athletic Department opens a listening session to the public addressing additional questions the community may have about the discontinuance of Women’s Water Polo; and let it be further

RESOLVED, CSUEB follows up with their commitment to consult with all returning Water Polo players about their future at CSUEB and provides support for opportunities if they would like to continue water polo at another institution, and

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be distributed to our University President Cathy Sandeen, University Chief of Staff Derek Aitken, Vice President for Student Affairs Suzanne Espinoza, the Pioneer, digitally to all the international students, and any other relevant parties.

Authored by: Nolan Calara, ASI President/Chair
Erick Macias, ASI Executive Vice President
Kelekolio Mateo Jr., SAAC President

Approved On: June 26, 2024

ASI President/CEO does hereby [✔] approves / [ ] refuses to approve this resolution.

Nolan Calara  
ASI President/CEO

Erick Macias  
ASI Executive Vice President
Kelekolio Mateo Jr.
SAAC President

Approved by: ASI Board of Directors 2024-2025