

Resolution Honoring Kristi Kanel

Whereas, Dr. Kristi Kanel has been a steadfast advocate for California State University, Fullerton and for shared governance across the California State University system through sustained faculty leadership and service; and

Whereas, Dr. Kanel has served the CSUF Academic Senate for 17 years, including multiple terms in Senate leadership and on the Academic Senate Executive Committee for 6 years, contributing steady judgment, institutional memory, and principled guidance; and

Whereas, in a body that can debate the placement of commas for an hour, we somehow spent years putting the emphasis on the wrong syllable—kuh-NELL instead of KAN-el (panel-with-a-K)—and Dr. Kanel, in a master class of collegiality, let us carry on; and

Whereas, Dr. Kanel has represented CSUF in systemwide shared governance through service to the Academic Senate of the California State University (ASCSU), including leadership roles such as Secretary for Academic Affairs and service on the Student Mental Health Services Advisory Committee; and

Whereas, Dr. Kanel has served as a faculty member in Human Services at CSUF since 1983, demonstrating enduring commitment to students, colleagues, and the mission of public higher education; and

Whereas, Dr. Kanel's scholarship and professional contributions—reflected in numerous publications and books—advance practice and learning in areas including crisis intervention, culturally responsive human services, support for multilingual families, inclusive student success, and trauma-informed care; and

Whereas, Dr. Kanel has earned wide recognition for exemplary service and leadership, including multiple campus awards such as the Outstanding Professor Award and the Faculty Leadership in Collegial Governance Award; and

Whereas, Dr. Kanel has been an early and consistent champion for inclusion and equity in leadership opportunities, supporting the full participation of women and people of color in shared governance and campus decision-making; and

Whereas, Dr. Kanel has long advocated for student well-being, health, and safety- helping to elevate these priorities in campus policy and practice well before they became broadly recognized as essential institutional responsibilities; and

Whereas, Dr. Kanel is known for bringing moral clarity, candor, and a distinctive voice to deliberations, strengthening the Senate's culture of thoughtful debate, collegiality, and accountability; and

Whereas, her leadership is grounded in empathy and she never fails to recognize the humanity in everyone; and

Whereas, as Dr. Kanel transitions to FERP/retirement status, the CSUF community recognizes her extraordinary record of service and celebrates her continued impact as a mentor, colleague, and advocate; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Academic Senate of California State University, Fullerton hereby commends and thanks Dr. Kristi Kanel for her many years of exemplary service to the University, the Academic Senate, and the broader CSU system; and be it further

Resolved, that the Academic Senate extends its deep appreciation for Dr. Kanel's leadership, scholarship, and unwavering commitment to students and shared governance, and offers its warmest wishes for joy, health, and continued purpose in all future endeavors; and be it finally

Resolved, that this resolution be entered into the permanent records of the Academic Senate and that a copy be presented to Dr. Kristi Kanel as a lasting expression of the Senate's gratitude and esteem.