

June 12, 2019

This statement is in regards to a student, Angelisa Pantoja:

As student representatives, the Associated Students Board of Directors believes an injustice has occurred on the San Francisco State campus. As the elected voice of students, we hope to help give Angelisa a platform for her voice to be heard by the SFSU administration. San Francisco State University has not done its due diligence to fight against homophobia, help end student homelessness, and keep our students safe. Angelisa was called homophobic slurs, had threats of violence forced on her, and made the safe decision to defend herself. Angelisa's story was immediately twisted and an email was sent to all students claiming that Angelisa, who identifies as a bisexual woman, was a transgender Latinx female. As most of us are aware, this email put a whole community of trans identifying persons at risk and a follow up email was sent apologizing for the initial transphobic and harmful email. The apology email was not enough; Angelisa was still kicked off campus, experiencing severe anxiety and trauma, and still was given no justice. The Office of Student Conduct explained how Angelisa was now deemed a threat to SFSU for practicing self-defense, and offered no effective resources for transitional housing or food insecurity, until about a week ago. Angelisa's situation was shared on social media platforms and has gained the attention of over fifteen thousand people. As student representatives of SF State, we are here to ask how our campus could force a queer woman, who had just experienced a homophobic and inexcusable act of violence, to be left on the street with no home and no food. We ask that Angelisa's situation be reevaluated, and that Angelisa be allowed to return to campus immediately to continue her education. There are people on campus who are harmful to students and should be held accountable, but Angelisa is not one of them. Over fifteen thousand people expect justice to be given to Angelisa Pantoja.

On behalf of Associated Students of San Francisco State University

President

Horace Montgomery Interim Executive Director

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