

## **An Acknowledgement from Associated Students President Karina Zamora**

**SAN FRANCISCO, April 10th, 2023** — On the evening of Thursday, Apr 6, 2023, the SF State chapter of Turning Point USA hosted “Saving Women’s Sports with Riley Gaines” on the SF State Campus, an event that promoted discriminatory rhetoric towards trans women athletes. During this event, a large group of students/community members signed up to participate, but most were stopped at the door due to the lack of space in the HSS classroom. This resulted in many students having to remain outside of the Turning Point USA event.

It was reported to me that students organized and followed the university’s Time, Place, and Manner (TPM) guidelines, but during the event, students protesting were coerced and given unwarranted warning cards threatening arrest if they violated the TPM policy. Though TPM was followed by protestors, I believe the "enforcement" of TPM was weaponized to silence and threaten protesters and the presence of police was both excessive and uncalled for.

SFSU’s mission statement calls for the delivery of “academic excellence by pursuing knowledge, inspiring creativity, supporting our diverse community, and advancing social justice and positive change in the world.” Based on the response by the administration, the heavy police presence in response to peaceful protest, and the threat of arrest aimed towards students upholding the principles of “social justice and positive change” by speaking out against discrimination and in support of trans people, it is clear that the University administration has failed to uphold the principles our campus prides itself on. Student organizing and protesting are an integral part of our campus culture.

I, as President of Associated Students, condemn and stand against the hateful rhetoric and promotion of violence spread by TPUSA and Riley Gaines as well as the confrontational behavior of the University Police Department at the behest of Campus Administration.

As President of Associated Students and on behalf of the organization, I call on President Lynn Mahoney and her administration to hold themselves accountable and host a

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community forum to hear how damaging these tactics have been to our student body. I call on campus administrators to work with our students and community to revisit and amend current policies and practices to uplift student voices and protect our student body, including transparency in publicly sharing with the AS Board of Directors how the university plans to move forward with a plausible action plan.

To our trans-identifying students: we see you, we hear you, and we are here to uplift your voices.

In solidarity,

AS President Karina Zamora

Resources:

Guide to being an ally to Transgender and Nonbinary Young People:

<https://www.thetrevorproject.org/resources/guide/a-guide-to-being-an-ally-to-transgender-and-nonbinary-youth/>

LGBTQ+ Youth Resources:

<https://www.cdc.gov/lgbthealth/youth-resources.htm>

SF LGBT Center:

<https://www.sfcenter.org/resources/page/2/?filters=17&at=0>

On-campus resources:

AS Women's Center:

<https://asi.sfsu.edu/womens-center>

AS Queer Trans Resource Center:

<https://asi.sfsu.edu/queer-trans-resource-center>

AS Legal Resource Center:

<https://asi.sfsu.edu/legal-resource-center>

Safe Zone Ally Program:

<https://safezone.sfsu.edu/resources>

AS Education & Referral Organization for Sexuality:

<https://asi.sfsu.edu/education-referral-organization-for-sexuality>

