

Statement of Support for QTRC & LGBTQ+ Community
Authored by: Steven Lee, Iese Esera, and Hyun Jin Kim

SAN FRANCISCO, January 1st, 2022 — The Associated Students of San Francisco State University write this statement in support of the LGBTQ+ community and our Queer & Trans Resource Center.

The LGBTQ+ community has endured many hardships and many battles in the pursuit of recognition, justice, and acceptance. This campus is located in San Francisco, one of the largest and most prominent LGBT communities in the nation, and continues to be a stronghold of allyship, education, and progressive resistance.

A number of campus events have caused our campus community concern and disturbance. While within their right to freedom of expression as governed by current campus policy, it is unaligned with this Board or Associated Students' values.

We encourage a free market of ideas and are confident that acceptance and respect will continue to emerge victorious, as it has in this university, city, state, and beyond. Though rhetoric that degrades our students' identities continues to be represented by the vast minority, the hateful and discriminatory rhetoric is harmful and condemned.

There should never be a question of whether students have to worry about their safety in the face of offensive and dangerous rhetoric.

In response to the concerning events, our QTRC quickly and boldly organized a Queer & Trans Sports Mixer in addition to Queer Your Mind, the QTRC's Annual Academic Conference, events of acceptance, empowerment and inclusion.

We commend the QTRC and its team as a whole, for their leadership, advocacy, and inspired service to the LGBTQ+ community and for ensuring that safe spaces are intentional,

accessible, and affirm the identities of our students. We also set the record straight in confirming that the QTRC was not involved in anything beyond the aforementioned educational and affirming counter programming.

We implore student organizations to be wary of how their events, statements, and communications may affect the community around them, and ask that student organizations reach out to Associated Students and other campus resources if they feel that their identity and community is being targeted.

Associated Students will always stand in support of inclusion, affirmation, and empowerment.