



Mary Croughan  
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Chair of the Assembly and the Academic Council  
Faculty Representative to the Board of Regents  
University of California  
1111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor  
Oakland, California 94607-5200

June 24, 2009

**PRESIDENT MARK YUDOF  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA**

**Re: Academic Assembly Resolution to Grant Special Honorary Degrees to Students Affected by Executive Order 9066 during World War II**

Dear Mark:

At its meeting on June 17, the Academic Assembly unanimously approved amendment of Academic Senate Regulations to allow for the granting of a special honorary degree to students enrolled at the University of California during the 1941-1942 academic year who were unable to continue their education and receive their degrees due to their removal or exclusion under federal Executive Order 9066.

The joint Academic Senate-Administration's Task Force on Recognizing Students Interned in WWII considered a variety of policy options for recognizing students of Japanese descent who were removed or excluded during World War II under Executive Order 9066. The Task Force recommended granting a special honorary degree to people affected by this Order. It would be a unique degree, granted by the University of California and not by a specific campus, nor would it be a bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degree. While the granting of honorary degrees requires consultation with the Senate, in 1972, the Regents imposed a moratorium on honorary degrees, and a Regents' bylaw limits the number that can be conferred by any one campus on an annual basis. Therefore, the Regents would have to suspend or amend their bylaw in order to award this special honorary degree. The amendment of the Senate Regulations is carefully crafted to apply to a specific class of approximately 700 individuals under limited circumstances and would not apply to any other person or group of persons. The proposed wording on the honorary degree is *Inter Silvas Academi Restituere Iustitiam* (To Restore Justice to the Groves of the Academy), which appropriately reflects the University's core values.

We ask that you communicate to the Regents the intentions of the Academic Assembly in approving this resolution and that you request that the Regents consider suspending or amending their bylaws to enable the granting of this special honorary degree. Please note that the Academic Assembly expressed its intention that the honorary degrees be awarded posthumously to the families of those eligible individuals who are deceased.

The text of the Assembly Resolution, as well as a letter from the co-chairs of the Task Force on Recognizing Students Interned in WWII, is enclosed for your information. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding the Assembly's resolution.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Croughan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mary Croughan  
Chair, Academic Assembly

Copy: Academic Assembly  
John Sandbrook, Interim Chief of Staff  
Martha Winnacker, Academic Senate Executive Director  
Dan Simmons, Chair, Task Force on Recognizing Students Interned in WWII  
Judy Sakaki, Vice President, Student Affairs  
Larry Pitts, Interim Provost and Executive Vice President

Encl (2)

**RESOLUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE  
ACADEMIC SENATE  
OF THE  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA**

**TO AMEND THE REGULATIONS OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE  
ADDING NEW ARTICLE 3 TO CHAPTER 1 OF TITLE II WITH REGULATION  
SECTION 625, AND 626, AND AMENDING CHAPTER 4 BY CHANGING THE TITLE  
THERE TO, AMENDING SECTION 730, AND ADDING NEW SECTION 736**

**WHEREAS:** A large number of Japanese American students enrolled on campuses of the University of California were forced to leave the University under the terms of Presidential Executive Order 9066 and related military orders,

**AND**

**WHEREAS:** The Congress and the President of the United States declared in the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 that:

The Congress recognizes that, as described by the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians, a grave injustice was done to both citizens and permanent resident aliens of Japanese ancestry by the evacuation, relocation, and internment of civilians during World War II. As the Commission documents, these actions were carried out without adequate security reasons and without any acts of espionage or sabotage documented by the Commission, and were motivated largely by racial prejudice, wartime hysteria, and a failure of political leadership. The excluded individuals of Japanese ancestry suffered enormous damages, both material and intangible, and there were incalculable losses in education and job training, all of which resulted in significant human suffering for which appropriate compensation has not been made. For these fundamental violations of the basic civil liberties and constitutional rights of these individuals of Japanese ancestry, the Congress apologizes on behalf of the Nation.

**AND**

**WHEREAS:** Convictions of Gordon Hirabayashi and Fred Korematsu for violating the curfew and exclusion orders proceeding from Executive Order 9066, which were affirmed by the United States Supreme Court (*Hirabayashi v. United States*, 320 U.S. 81 (1943); *Korematsu v. United States*, 323 U.S. 214 (1944)), were set aside on findings by District Courts that were described by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeal as indicating that, “the reasoning of the Supreme Court would probably have been profoundly and materially affected if the Justice Department had advised it of the suppression of evidence which established the truthfulness of the allegations made by Hirabayashi and Korematsu concerning the real reason for the exclusion order.” *Hirabayashi v. United States*, 828 F.2d 591, 603-604 (9th Cir. 1987),

**AND**

**WHEREAS:** But for the exclusion order, in the normal course of events students enrolled in the University of California would have completed the requirements for their academic degrees and would have become members of the University academic community,

**AND**

**WHEREAS:** University of California Regents Bylaw 29.1 a. requires that honorary degrees may be awarded upon recommendation of the President of the University and approval by a three-fourths vote of the members present.

**AND**

**WHEREAS:** University of California Regents Bylaw 29.1 c. limits the number of honorary degrees that may be awarded by a campus at a ceremony to three, and to no more than four honorary degrees in any one academic year.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA THAT:**

The Regulations of the Academic Senate of the University of California are hereby amended as follows:

1. Add to Title II. Curricula, Chapter 1. General Provisions, a new Article 3 to provide as follows:

**Chapter 1. General Provisions, a new Article 3 to provide as follows:**

**Article 3. Special Honorary Degree for Students enrolled in Academic Year 1941-1942.**

**625.**

(a) Persons enrolled at a campus of the University of California during the academic year 1941-1942 who were removed or excluded under Executive Order 9066, and who were therefore unable to receive a degree from a University of California campus, are awarded an Honorary Degree of the University of California Inter Silvas Academi Restituere Iustitiam (to restore justice among the groves of the academy).

(b) The Chair of the Academic Council shall present to the President a list of those persons determined to meet the requirements enumerated in paragraph (a) of this Regulation.

**626.**

The award of any degree under this Article 3 is conditioned upon amendment or suspension of the bylaws of the Regents of the University of California to expressly permit the award of the honorary degree described in regulation 625.

2. Chapter 4. Certificates, additions and deletions, amend section 730 and a new Section 736 as follows:

**Chapter 4. Diplomas and Certificates**

**730.**

Except as specified in Regulations 732, ~~and 734~~, 735, and 736, each diploma, certificate or other formal academic testimonial proposed for regular use in the University by its agencies or officers is subject to the approval of the Assembly or its agent on recommendation of the Division concerned.

**736.**

The Honorary Degree of the University of California *Inter Silvas Academi Restituere Iustitiam* awarded pursuant to Senate Regulation 625 shall be represented by a diploma in the following form:

**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA**

**Honoris Causa**

**Inter Silvas Academi Restituere Iustitiam**

By authority of the Regents and the Academic Senate of the University of California

.....

who was enrolled at the . . . . . campus of the University of California in the academic year 1941-1942 and who was excluded from continuing by reason of Executive Order 9066, is awarded this honorary degree.

.s/.....

s/.....

[seal of the University]

The diploma shall be signed by the Governor of California, the President of the University, the Chair of the Board of Regents and the Chair of the Assembly.



Judy Sakaki, Co-Chair, Vice President-Student Affairs, UC Office of the President  
Dan Simmons, Co-Chair, University of California, Davis

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March 17, 2009

MARY CROUGHAN, CHAIR  
ACADEMIC COUNCIL

**Re: RECOMMENDATION FROM THE TASK FORCE ON RECOGNIZING STUDENTS  
INTERNEED DURING WORLD WAR II**

Dear Chair Croughan,

On behalf of the Task Force, we are pleased to submit our recommendation to Council on recognizing the Japanese American students interned during World War II.

After the thorough review and consideration of the matter and the various issues involved, the Task Force recommends the amendment of Academic Senate Regulations to allow for the granting of a Special Honorary Degree for students enrolled in Academic Year 1941-1942.

A copy of a draft resolution for the Assembly is attached. We believe that the language of the resolution is self-explanatory. The amendment to regulations would bring the authority of the Senate in support of this worthy cause and reflect the Senate's ultimate authority over degrees. The situation addressed by the resolution is unique in the history of the United States (fortunately) and unique in the history of the University. Approving a University honorary degree in these unique circumstances will not set a precedent for future cases. In addition, recognition of the University students who were unable to continue their UC education because of their removal from the University by Executive Order 9066 does not undermine the individual achievement of students who receive a regular degree from a campus. Indeed, recognizing the harm suffered by Japanese Americans and providing a welcome back into the "groves of academia," enhances the stature of all of the degrees issued by the University;

Sincerely,

Judy Sakaki, Co-Chair, Vice President-Student Affairs, UC Office of the President  
Daniel Simmons, Co-Chair, University of California, Davis