DeAnza College

Academic Senate

Resolution on Improving the Name-Change policies and procedures in the Foothill-De Anza Community College District
April 2022

WHEREAS, the Foothill-De Anza Community College District employs numerous Transgender and Non-Binary people and has numerous Transgender and Non-Binary students enrolled; and

WHEREAS, the continued use of a Transgender or Non-Binary person's former name (often referred to as their "deadname") often causes significant emotional distress; and

WHEREAS, there are numerous reasons why an individual may want (or need) to have an alternative or "preferred name" used in all public-facing entities (such as email name, email address, schedule of classes, faculty and employee websites, Canvas, and course rosters); and

WHEREAS, there is currently not a well-established, efficient, or well-communicated process for district employees and students to establish a "preferred name" and have it used on all public-facing entities, and any current processes are either overly bureaucratic or time consuming, with many processes requiring a full legal name change; and

WHEREAS, other nearby colleges, such as San Jose State University, have a significantly quicker and simpler process for establishing and implementing a "preferred name"; THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED that the De Anza Academic Senate urges the Foothill-De Anza Community College District to overhaul current procedures on establishing a "preferred name," in favor of a single quicker, user-facing interface for establishing a "preferred name"; and

RESOLVED that the De Anza Academic Senate urges the Foothill-De Anza Community College District to apply "preferred names" to all public-facing entities, such as email, course schedules, faculty websites housed by the District, Canvas, and class rosters; and

RESOLVED that the De Anza Academic Senate requests the Foothill-De Anza Community College District to enable all district employees and students, regardless of gender identity, be allowed to utilize the improved name-change procedures.

Adopted April 18, 2022