



Academic Senate • 1000 E. Victoria • Carson, CA 90747 • WH-A420 • (310) 243-3312

Resolution in Memory of Dr. Munashe Furusa

***W EXEC 21-04**

Passed Unopposed 02/10/2021

Whereas: Dr. Munashe Furusa was a dedicated professor, scholar, activist, and administrator who served with distinction at California State University Dominguez Hills (CSUDH) from 2000 to 2014; and,

Whereas: Dr. Furusa came to CSUDH as a Visiting Professor in 2000, and he had such a positive impact on his students, that they circulated a petition demanding that Administration offer him a permanent faculty position; and,

Whereas: Dr. Furusa earned tenure in 2006 and assumed the role of Chair of the Africana Studies Department from 2006 until 2010; and,

Whereas: Dr. Furusa served as Chair of the Academic Senate from 2008 through 2010; and,

Whereas: Dr. Furusa earned numerous awards for his dedication and achievements at CSUDH and in our community, including: the Frederick Douglass Award for Outstanding Leadership and Service; the 2002 and 2000 Cheikh Anta Diop Award for Outstanding Research in Africana Studies; the 2004 Lyle E. Gibson Dominguez Hills Distinguished Teacher Award; and the University Excellence in Service Award in 2008; and,

Whereas: Dr. Furusa served on the board of the National Black Studies Council and received the Carson Black Chamber of Commerce Education Award for his work with African American and Latino youth; and,

Whereas: Dr. Furusa was asked in 2010 to serve as the Acting Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Humanities; and,

Whereas: Dr. Furusa also served as the Executive Director of the California African American Political and Economic Institute from 2010 through 2014 and served as director during the period of the renaming of the Institute in honor of its legislative founder, the Honorable Mervyn Dymally; and,

Whereas: Dr. Furusa served as interim dean of the College of Arts and Humanities in 2012 and was hired as the permanent dean in 2013; and,

Whereas: Dr. Furusa's excellence in higher education on all levels led him to return to his native homeland in Zimbabwe after being recruited and hired for the position of Vice Chancellor of Africa University where he continued to serve with distinction; and,

Whereas: Dr. Furusa is recognized by Africa University colleagues for "advancing the university in its educational capabilities and develop[ing] the necessary leadership to achieve this" and "attending" to individual students and staff, creating an atmosphere of family among all of us whose lives he touched"; and

Whereas: Regrettably, Dr. Furusa passed away on January 13, 2021 after a brief illness; and,

Whereas: Colleagues note that Dr. Furusa was "a coach, mentor, teacher, scholar, astute administrator who was very passionate and steeped in the culture and history of Africa and the African Diaspora," and he "was a true intellectual committed to using compassion to transform the hearts and minds of his students, colleagues, and friends"; therefore be it,

Resolved: That the California State University, Dominguez Hills Academic Senate mourns the passing of beloved Dr. Munashe Furusa and recognizes "his knowledge was wide, his perspective encompassing, his deep listening palpable, his kindness radiant, and his compassion enveloping." We honor his contributions to our university and community, Africa University and its community, and extend our condolences to his family, friends, colleagues, and the students he inspired.