DATE: January 29, 2004
TO: Board of Trustees
FROM: Dr. Philip R. Day, Jr., Chancellor

SUBJECT: SPECIAL
The Brown v. the Board of Education
(Resolution No.040129-S2)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The year 2004 marks the 50th anniversary of the landmark Brown v. Board of Education Supreme Court decision. In recognition of this anniversary, schools, colleges, and universities and their associated organizations across the nation are reaffirming their commitment to access and equity to higher education. With the support and encouragement from the AACC and ACCT, we are bringing awareness to this important anniversary.

The Brown v. the Board of Education decision has had an impact on public education in America and the advancement of community colleges’ service to students and the community like no other. The decision reversed the long-standing, separate-but-equal doctrine that had previously governed public education, including in the community colleges. In fact, fifty years later many states are still struggling with how to finally remove the vestiges of segregation in education and its penetrating effects on society.

At this time of unprecedented budget cuts and challenges to open access to a post-secondary education in California and in the United States, it becomes fundamental for all of public education to remember how far we have come, how far we must go, and how hard we must fight to keep the door open to low-cost, high quality education for all. Never in the history of this State have the poor and disadvantaged been more threatened by a closed door—whether through lack of space or high cost.

The unprecedented demand for a highly skilled workforce makes access to post-secondary education fundamental for any adult who hopes to live a decent life. The door to public education can only be kept open with the understanding of the need and the economic support of our entire citizenry. Our democracy, our commitment to economic and social equality, and the hope of all generations depend on it.
RECOMMENDATION

RESOLVED: that on the 50\textsuperscript{th} anniversary of Brown \textit{v.} Board of Education decision, the Board of Trustees of City College of San Francisco pledge our unwavering commitment to providing equal access to post-secondary education; and

RESOLVED: that the Board of Trustees of City College of San Francisco support efforts on behalf of all educational entities to ensure learning equity for all students through institutional, political, personal, and civic engagement.

President Anita Grier, Originator
Trustee Lawrence Wong, Originator
Trustee Johnnie Carter, Originator