RESOLUTION OF THE ORGANIZATION OF CHINESE AMERICANS
SUPPORTING ASIAN AMERICAN AND ETHNIC STUDIES IN INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED BY THE OCA NATIONAL BOARD

July 17, 1998

WHEREAS, our nation has a proud heritage reflecting the struggles of diverse ethnic groups to secure their American dream,

WHEREAS, each ethnic group brought its unique history, heritage, customs and culture to our nation, contributing to the enrichment of all people by building a more democratic and inclusive society,

WHEREAS, Asian American and Ethnic Studies programs have been recognized for their scholarship and effort to document, analyze and forecast the contemporary, historical, and future experiences of Asian Pacific Americans and other ethnic communities,

WHEREAS, Asian American and Ethnic Studies programs provide students with the knowledge of unabridged history of the United States including the vital roles Asian Pacific Americans and other ethnic communities have played in the growth and strength of our nation,

WHEREAS, Asian American and Ethnic Studies curricula provide the knowledge to break down racial barriers and stereotypes necessary to engage in a broad and constructive dialogue about America’s racial diversity,

WHEREAS, higher education is a meeting ground for American pluralism, and Asian American and Ethnic Studies programs contribute to the inclusiveness of all peoples’ diverse history, culture and experiences creating educational environments equally welcome, valued and heard,

WHEREAS, the American Council of Education and the American Colleges and Universities have teamed up with the President’s Race Initiative to encourage colleges and universities to conduct programs focused on race and diversity in America,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Organization of Chinese Americans, Inc. (OCA) supports the continuation and development of Asian American and Ethnic Studies programs and curricula,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that OCA urges universities to support the development of Asian American and Ethnic Studies programs and curricula by maintaining or creating full-time tenured positions in the field,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that OCA encourages all OCA chapters to communicate their concerns regarding this issue to appropriate officials and organizations,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the OCA President, on behalf of the OCA membership, shall request the appropriate government agency to investigate whether the abolishment of Ethnic Studies violates federal civil rights laws resulting in the loss of federal funding for public education systems; and report to the OCA National Board,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, copies of this Resolution be sent to the presidents of applicable universities, the Regents of the applicable universities, and the dean of applicable colleges.