ACADEMIC SENATE
Resolution 20/21-07

In support of Undergraduate campaign for fossil fuel divestment and reinvestment

WHEREAS the Academic Senate’s Resolution 17/18-001 affirmed our desire to see USC adopt as goals (a) net zero carbon emissions, (b) net zero waste, (c) net zero water, (d) comprehensive campus-wide sustainability research and education, and (d) transparency in, and accountability for, progress toward these goals;

WHEREAS the Senate of USC’s undergraduate student government voted on Nov 25, 2020 in favor of a Resolution (SB140-10) that urges the University to publicly commit to a transparent and rapid sale of all $277 million of its stated investments in the fossil fuel industry, to reinvest a substantial amount of the freed funds towards clean technologies and renewable energy, and to consider climate risk in its investing strategy;

WHEREAS the rationale for the students’ Resolution appears sound and consistent with the Senate’s prior Resolution;

WHEREAS it appears possible to effect this divestment without substantial negative effects on USC’s financial position;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Academic Senate expresses its support for the students’ Resolution, and joins with undergraduate Senate in urging the Board of Trustees to adopt the recommended investment policies.

Resolution Number: 20/21-07
Motion by: Executive Board
Date: Dec 16, 2020
Action taken: Passed – 34 in favor, 2 opposed, and 4 abstentions