



Dr. Cynthia Teniente-Matson, President

Dear Spartan community,

Our university has an enviable legacy of promoting and celebrating diversity. Great strides have been made over the years to ensure that diverse communities thrive on our campus through education and continual progress toward understanding and respect.

While I am proud of SJSU's record of diversity, equity and inclusion, I am also troubled by a darker moment in history, when misguided fears led to the incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II. Worse, our university was an active participant in this campaign, dedicating assets and personnel to aid in processing these innocent people for relocation and detention by the federal government.

Last August, in my Fall Welcome Address, I announced my intent to forever commemorate February 19 as a Day of Remembrance on our campus. A [Presidential Directive](#) formally declaring this designation is now in effect, and while no written proclamation can undo the damage done to those affected by the fearmongering that prompted the incarceration campaign, it will hopefully serve as a step toward acknowledging wrongdoing and ensuring that it never happens again.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cynthia Teniente Matson".

Dr. Cynthia Teniente-Matson

President

(She/Her/Ella)

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