

Dear Fellow Students,

It is with sincere concern and great candor that I write this letter to you today. I first stepped into the role of a student leader because I saw the opportunity to help voice issues that students faced. Being that I am in my senior year, I could have just as easily walked away from the opportunity and focused on my future. Instead, I felt that I could focus my passion to help benefit as many students as possible.

In the short time that I have had the honor to serve you, I have had the opportunity to meet many wonderful people. I have been able to start many exciting and beneficial projects. Because I come from a diverse background from different groups and organizations on campus, I have worked hard to reach out to students who were not typically involved in ASI and the work that ASI does for students. So far this year, ASI has made great efforts this year to reach out to as many of the more than 22,000 students enrolled on campus. I am pleased with the positive feedback and the growth of involvement that has come from my peers.

In my time in office, ASI has made great strides for our campus through various accomplishments. In addition, we were breaking ground on issues that would make a positive impact not just for Fresno State students, but for all CSU students. I have had the opportunity to meet and work with student leaders from other 22 CSU campuses. With joint efforts and combined enthusiasm from all the campuses, we started to make changes in legislation through advocacy in Sacramento. Also, as Financial Aid Officer for the CSU system under CSSA, I was prepared and eager to represent the largest, most affordable state university system in America.

Unfortunately, recent events have taken away from what we are trying to achieve. As a result, it has made it impossible for me to continue to be productive as President. While I did not violate any ASI bylaw or policy, I have acknowledged, apologized for, and repaired the mistakes. As soon as I found out about the mischarge, I paid the credit card company directly from my own bank account. I was honest and sincere in admitting my fault. I am human. As humans, when you make a mistake, we are all hopeful that when being open and accepting responsibility, people will look at the situation in context, thus allowing you not only to learn from your mistakes, but to grow from them as well. However, for a number of reasons, this has not been the case.

The Senate originally made a decision to put me on probation, which I feel was an acceptable consequence for my mistake. Despite the decision that the Senate made, some individuals used this already resolved situation as a method to attack me as a person and misrepresent what I stand for. Whether their motives were vindictive due to the outcome of the election or simply just to get more hits on their website, I am grateful that the student body can read through ulterior motives.

Of the students that I have personally spoken to, I have been able to dispel most of the rumors. At this point in time, I cannot fully tell my side of the story. Everything I can say, I have said in my original letter to the students. It is

upsetting to me that the request to have my letter printed in its entirety was not granted. While it is frustrating to me that students are only being exposed to a biased, one-sided opinion, I find solace in the fact that the truth will eventually be revealed.

It has become too difficult for me to not only successfully perform my job as a student leader, but also my more important role as a student. These recent weeks have caused me to fall behind in school and I need to reprioritize what is significant in my life and get back on track with what matters most.

I hereby step down as President of Associated Students, Inc., effective immediately.

Very Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mackee M Mason". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Mackee M Mason