May 23, 2020

Dear Members of Our Campus Community,

It is my honor and with a heavy heart to gather virtually with you today as a community to share our reflections on the sixth anniversary of the tragic events that took place in Isla Vista on May 23, 2014. We remember and celebrate the beautiful lives of those we lost, and forever keep them in our hearts.

- George Chen,
- Katherine Cooper,
- James Hong,
- Christopher Michaels-Martinez,
- David Wang,
- and Veronika Weiss.

As a campus, we grieved together, found strength in each other, and cared for one another. Today, we do the same. Even though we can’t be together during this difficult time, this virtual memorial provides us an opportunity to be united in spirit and in our memories of the precious lives lost.

This gathering also provides an opportunity to recognize the many ways in which our campus and the IV community have collaborated and connected. We continue to foster community, and together come to a deeper understanding of what it means to share in our community that we treasure so much. We use this time to pause and reflect, and to appreciate the resilience and spirit of our community with a renewed sense of strength and unity.

I would like to thank our Associated Students for their leadership in organizing this occasion for commemoration and reflection.

Let us use this moment to continue to build up our community, and build up each other. And let us keep the light of our six students, shining brightly and eternally, as we carry the torch of their memory.

Sincerely,

Henry Yang,
Chancellor