Final Report of the 2018 Aztec Identity Task Force

Submitted to
President Sally Roush

April 30, 2018

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I. Executive Summary

A. Introduction

The 2018 Aztec Identity Task Force (AITF) was formed by President Sally Roush in response to the resolution of the San Diego State University Academic Senate dated November 7, 2017 (see Appendix A). The Senate called for a task force to be formed "to investigate and make recommendations regarding the appropriateness of the continued usage of the Aztec moniker including symbols, signage, logos, branding, buildings, statues (e.g., Monty), awards (e.g., Zuma) and other references to the possible misappropriation of Aztec Identity" (SDSU Senate minutes 11/7/17, lines 93 – 96). The resolution continued, "This task force shall also make recommendations regarding an education component in relation to Aztec Identity" (ibid, lines 96 – 98). This report is the official report of the task force that was formed and that met for a period of 10 weeks, beginning on February 12, 2018, and concluding on April 24, 2018. The 17 members appointed by President Roush included five current students, five alumni, four faculty, one staff, and two community representatives. On February 12, 2018 all appointees accepted the responsibility to contribute towards the mandate of the Senate (see Appendix B for the official charge of the AITF). At the initial meeting of February 12th, all members voted unanimously to keep the identities of the AITF confidential and this was confirmed at the meeting with President Roush on April 30, 2018. The AITF recognized the history associated with Aztec identity and requested all available documentation relative to the 2001 task force report that was presented to President Stephen Weber dated May 1, 2001 (Appendix J). This foundational document served as the baseline for the AITF of 2018. After review by all members, it was determined that the 2018 AITF neither needed to repeat the extensive data collected on the culture and history of the people known as the *Aztecas* nor had the time to do so. To that end, the members agreed to focus on what had transpired since that report and the impact that the subsequent actions of SDSU has had on the stakeholders of the University. We crafted a Mission Statement that focused on the charge set forth by President Roush.

B. Mission Statement

The mission of the 2018 Aztec Identity Task Force (AITF) is to consider the opinions of stakeholders associated with San Diego State University and provide recommendations related to the Aztec identity to the President of San Diego State University.

C. Process & Methodology

The AITF had approximately ten weeks to complete their research, deliberate and provide a recommendation report to President Roush for consideration. An electronic group poll was taken

to chart out the best days and times for the group to meet. No members of the AITF were provided release time from existing responsibilities nor any other form of compensation; all members volunteered their time and integrated the project into their existing schedules. As such, two standing meetings of three hours each were scheduled for each week and members were encouraged to attend at least one meeting each week. A conference call option was provided for those who could not physically be in the room. The group voted to organize themselves through a Tri-Chair organizational structure that represented faculty and staff, students, and alumni and community members. Each chair was to communicate with the members in their group as needed and a Google Drive folder was established for the sharing of materials and meeting minutes. At approximately week four of the ten weeks, the AITF requested a professional note taker in order to provide more accurate notes for those that could not make a meeting and to assure that we stayed focused on the issues. The first official notes of the AITF taken by the professional note taker were placed in the Google Drive and dated March 13, 2018.

The group functioned much like a committee of the whole and ideas were freely exchanged in order to explore all options and viewpoints. Many of the committee members provided materials that they felt were pertinent to the conversation to include academic research relevant to university mascots, resolutions made by various organizations relative to mascots, email correspondence sent to the President's office on the issue of Aztec identity, Facebook and other social media postings, documents from various archives held at SDSU, scholarly materials relevant to Aztec culture and society, scholarly materials on contemporary Nahua people, essays and articles on cultural appropriation, and other notes and materials. These research materials built upon the 2001 report and became part of our discussion and deliberations. A limited bibliography is included with this report.

The AITF was in unanimous agreement that the most encompassing process of hearing what the various stakeholders wanted to say about the issues set forth by the Senate resolution was to conduct a survey across all stakeholder groups. The Alumni Association had initiated a survey prior to the AITF formation. To assure continuity in the data, we used the same questions on three separate surveys to Students, Faculty/Staff, and the Community. In order to provide a richer understanding of the numeric outcomes of the survey, we incorporated an open-ended free space on the surveys so that respondents could express their sentiments in their own words. The methodology for analyzing the data along with the results of these surveys are detailed in Section III of this report.

In addition to the archival information noted above, the AITF received informative presentations from a small number of visitors pertaining to the history of the Moniker and the Aztec Warrior Mascot as well as the current Senate Resolutions. See Appendix C for a list of visitors. The presentations provided a deeper understanding of the actions taken by SDSU since the 2001 report and provided the AITF with a baseline for our recommendations. As evidenced by many of the comments from the surveys, the lack of action on many recommendations from this 2001 report has had a negative impact on the trust of many survey respondents in believing that appropriate action will be taken in the future. See Section II. Background and Situation Analysis for a summary of this issue.

The AITF recognizes the significance of the many references to Title VI in documentation and debates on Native American mascots as well as the Senate's reference to State of California Education Code Title I, Division I, Part I, Chapter 2. We did not undertake a review of these

proceedings and recommend that the President of SDSU review these issues and their significance to the recommendations of this report.

The members of the AITF worked diligently to evaluate all data presented to us including the perspectives and opinions of each member. Each of us wrestled with the significance and meaning of the multiple issues relative to cultural appropriation, colonial and neocolonial aggressions, and the current social climate of our community. We sought to respect and honor each person's contributions to these topics. We recognize that we do not hold a shared understanding of these issues, what they mean to each person, and how they are lived and experienced. Our conversations acknowledged that cultural appropriation, defined for our purposes as the invocation, use, or exploitation of cultural artifacts from a minority or disenfranchised group in a disrespectful manner, whether intentional or unintentional by a dominant group, was a primary concern of many people within the SDSU community. We also recognized that while there is a difference between cultural mixing, where these same processes can be integrated into another culture with due respect, this has not been done consistently and with true commitment at SDSU with the Aztec moniker. These were not easy conversations and we did not always agree but we were open to each person's opinions, experiences, and suggestions for addressing our differences. We sought respect and empathy in our interactions. During our ten weeks together, two members of the AITF recused themselves from the project. Despite their absence, we referred to their many contributions to the project as we completed our work. Our recommendations are not unanimously held, nor do we find a need to make them so.

The recommendations put forth in this report are based on:

1. Results of quantitative and qualitative survey responses.
2. Recommendations from 2001, many of which were not carried out. The AITF holds that the lack of action on these recommendations has had a direct impact on the current debate.
3. Understandings drawn from essays and discussions of Cultural Appropriation and the multiple ways in which it is experienced.
4. Input from President Roush on her meeting with the Southern California Tribal Chairman's Association.
5. Research materials on Native American mascots, including reports from, and about, other Universities in similar situations pertaining to their mascot.
6. Archival materials on the SDSU mascot from its inception to the contemporary moment.
7. Recognition of a lack of shared responsibility among the university community and administration, especially in the area of financial burden, on the issues of Aztec Identity.

D. Overview of Recommendations Relative to the Moniker/Mascot

The AITF offers the following recommendations relative to the moniker and the mascot. These recommendations were constructed from all of the documentation set forth above. As noted above, the AITF is not unanimous but is in agreement with the reasons that are set forth after each recommendation. A more detailed set of recommendations that is based on the potential of retaining the moniker, is included in this report under Section IV Conclusions and Recommendations.

Moniker Recommendation: Keep the Moniker "Aztecs"

Reasons in Favor:

- Survey results weigh heavily in favor of retaining the identity.
- Stakeholders expressed a personal identification with the Aztec moniker that strengthens their relationship to SDSU.
- The University has the potential to effectively embrace and teach positive elements of what is known about the Aztec Empire and its people (Education, Strength/Prowess, Commitment to Community).
- As a Hispanic Serving Institution on the US/Mexico border, SDSU has the capability of honoring the many indigenous people of the region and creating an educational program that situates indigenous contributions – ancient, historic, and contemporary – into the education of all students through the retention of the moniker.
- Eliminating the moniker provokes a sentiment of discrimination and silencing by many stakeholders who self-identify as having indigenous heritage, both from Mexico and the US.
- The moniker strengthens SDSU's relationship with the majority Spanish-speaking population in the region and has empowered many of their youth to pursue higher education.
- In the current political climate relative to the US/Mexico border, the elimination of the moniker may be read as discriminatory and an attempt to 'erase' our relationship to Mexico and other Latin Americans.

Reasons to eliminate:

- Representations of the Aztecs invoke negative sentiment among many due to the mishandling of the symbols that have been created. It is viewed as a negative example of cultural appropriation.
- SDSU has capitalized on the name Aztec, with no recognition of contemporary Nahua people. If SDSU is not committed to the future of contemporary Nahua, then they should not use the moniker.
- Change is warranted because of the current political climate that leans toward racial and ethnic discrimination.
- The overall trend in athletics is removal of all portrayals of Native Americans unless they have the endorsement of local indigenous peoples. The Nahua are a diverse group of more than one million people in Mexico and are not structured as 'tribes' with representational leadership. It is not possible to have a consensus on the use of the name from 'the' Nahua people.

Mascot Recommendation: Task Force is Divided

Keep the mascot as is:

- Survey results show a clear majority want to keep it.

- Current physical representation is culturally appropriate, albeit non-inclusive (does not adequately represent other genders).
- The behavior of the person representing the Aztec warrior challenges the authenticity of the representation; strict guidelines can be developed and enforced to assure that the warrior representative behaves appropriately.
- Removal of the mascot can be considered the same as removal of the People, as in history of discrimination and colonialism.

Remove the mascot:

- Human representation under the guise of 'mascot' demeans the symbol. Creating a character would be worse.
- Complete elimination is requested as there is a lack of trust that an evolution for the mascot would happen, given prior SDSU history.
- No human should be a mascot.
- The mascot carries the most weight in terms of offense and though the population that carries this offense is small, we must recognize that if we do anything as a University that has that profound of an emotional impact on another person, we should reconsider its use.
- The warrior is patriarchal and does not honor the other genders of the University.
- The warrior does not encompass the many other aspects of Aztec culture such as education and placing the community over the individual.

Compromise/ Evolve:

- The Aztec Empire had a number of powerful symbols that could be used in lieu of a human warrior. These include the eagle, jaguar (not puma or panther), serpent (especially the two headed serpent, no tail), and the most powerful, the hummingbird. Any of these could be made into art forms, characters, and objects that could be more readily invoked by fans.
- Hire a marketing research firm to study feasibility and potential impacts, including reputational and financial, to evolving the mascot from warrior to something else.
- Set a time table for evolving to something else that would be an acceptable representation for Aztecs.
- Add additional representations that are culturally appropriate such as the calendar (science, agriculture) and the scribe (knowledge, education).

II. Background and Situation Analysis

The following is an overview of the history of the mascot as we understand it, including an overview and analysis of the 2001 AITF report's recommendations and subsequent University response. A complete timeline with details is available as Appendix D.

The evolution of Aztec identity at SDSU began in 1924 and was voted in by the student body in 1925. Our colors, red and black, were voted on by the student body and accepted in 1928. Nine years later, Donal Hord, a renowned sculptor, created the statue, *Aztec*, that has been regarded by scholars of Nahua culture as accurate and that has been honored as an exceptional piece of art by critics[i]. The statue, misnamed, is currently located in the Prospective Student Center in Student Services West.

The nicknaming of the Aztec Emperor Moctezuma to "Monty Montezuma" was initiated by Art Munzig in 1941 and lasted until the AITF of 2001, where such slang and other caricature representations were deemed disrespectful. In response to the report, President Weber suspended the Aztec Warrior and commissioned a group to research and document a more culturally appropriate representation. During the suspension, alumni formed a separate organization, The Aztec Warrior Foundation, to redesign and return the warrior to use as the mascot. This remained in place until Jim Herrick, then president of the Aztec Warrior Board, worked with President Weber to return control of the mascot to the University and to Athletics. It has remained with Athletics since 2012. The current depiction of the Aztec Warrior was constructed under enormous consultation (2001-2003) to include Dr. Miguel León-Portillo, a renowned Mexican scholar of the Aztec people and empire. The costume creation and maintenance has been under the care of Felipe Rengel for the last 17 years. Mr. Rengel is a well-established dancer and teacher of Danza Azteca in San Diego. Athletics continues to select the person for the Aztec Warrior, establish and monitor behavioral guidelines, and assure that athletes are educated in respectful behavior and practices toward Aztec symbols and signage.

The logos associated with the moniker have undergone numerous changes, including the removal of any caricatures and red face. The evolution of the logo can be found as Appendix E, Evolution of the Aztec Logo/Moniker Graphic. The 2001 AITF report included recommendations for the continued use of logos and symbols from Aztec culture but conditioned this response on the development of ones that were more accurate and that captured the art of the Aztec people. The AITF recommended that the logo should be simple, clear and direct, eliminating any need for interpretation. They recommended that very strict guidelines as to use should be developed and implemented. We find that this was done in accordance with the report of 2001. We also find that a number of recommendations or action items were not implemented or were done intermittently and without adequate follow through.

In particular, the 2001 AITF report recommended that the logo(s) be developed to respect the various genders that it is intended to represent. This has not been done. Below is a brief listing of other recommendations that have either been neglected or were never implemented. We are in agreement with these recommendations:

- Designers from Mexico be included in the creation of logos that render an Aztec image,
- Use colors beyond red and black that were representative of the Aztecs (this includes blue and white),

- Aztec dancers or other such appropriate cultural representations of the Nahua be part of SDSU culture,
- Moctezuma's name should never be abbreviated or otherwise disrespected (Monty and Zuma awards disregard this recommendation),
- Dancing and other behavior displayed by the mascot or mark must also be fitting of the person(s) the mascot or mark is designed to represent. Current behaviors, e.g., pushups at football games, inappropriate dance moves at basketball games, and interacting with other mascots have not followed this recommendation despite the behavior guidelines established by Athletics, see Appendix F.

III. Survey Results

Surveys were constructed for four different stakeholder groups: Students, Alumni, Faculty and Staff, and Community. All surveys were sent out as single-use and were anonymous. The AITF requested that an independent research firm conduct the community survey; this was carried out by Luth Research. Residents within a radius of ten miles from SDSU were solicited. MarCom conducted the surveys for Faculty and Staff and for Students.

The following table summarizes the response data sources that were used by the AITF 2018.

Stakeholders	Surveys Deployed	Surveys Completed	Number of Comments
Alumni	125,000	6,598	3,818
Faculty & Staff	8,222	1,712	617
Students	31,417	3,440	1,065
Community	35,945	1,005	628
TOTAL	**200,584**	**12,755**	**6,128**

The Alumni Association constructed the first survey and administered it to 125,000 alumni.

In order to retain continuity in the data, the subsequent three surveys (Faculty and Staff, Students, Community) used the exact same two questions that were designed by the Alumni Association and followed their response prompt of either Yes or No:

1. Should SDSU keep the Aztec moniker (the name "Aztecs")?

2. Should SDSU keep the human representation of the Aztec Warrior mascot?

These two questions were followed by an open Comments section that allowed up to 400 characters.

The 2018 AITF created a survey for all SDSU Faculty and Staff; the survey questions and format were approved by President Roush. The survey opened February 28, 2018, a reminder was sent

on March 4, 2018 and the survey closed on March 8, 2018. The survey link was sent by email from MarCom to 8,222 Faculty (3,053 = 37.1%) and Staff (5,169 = 62.9%). The anonymous survey did not identify if the respondent was either Faculty or Staff; however, the Senate Resolution vote also did not track Faculty or Staff participation. The survey blocked multiple voting by monitoring IP addresses. While it may have been possible for Faculty or Staff to email the link to another device to vote more than one time, it was deemed unlikely that widespread "ballot stuffing" would occur. Survey results were monitored carefully, and it did not appear that much, if any, ballot stuffing occurred, based on voting trends and consistency of results with other surveys.

The Faculty and Staff survey was modified to include two additional questions that asked if the respondent was in agreement with the Senate Resolution of November 7, 2017. The resolution was separated for the purposes of the survey in order to determine agreement with the issue of the elimination of the moniker and mascot from an agreement with the formation of a task force. We felt that these were two very distinct issues and conflating them precluded people from agreeing/disagreeing with the elimination but agreeing/disagreeing with the formation of a task force. A five-point Likert scale was provided and ranged from Strongly Disagree to Strongly Agree.

The additional questions were:

1. "How strongly do you agree or disagree with the spirit of (not necessarily the verbiage) Resolution 1 from the University Senate? Excerpt from the University Senate minutes of meeting held 11/17/17: LET IT BE RESOLVED, that San Diego State University retire the current human representation of an Aztec as the school mascot as well as retire usage of spears or weapons that connote barbaric representation of the Aztec culture."
2. "How strongly do you agree or disagree with the spirit of (not necessarily the verbiage) Resolution 2 from the University Senate? Excerpt from the University Senate minutes of meeting held 11/17/17: LET IT BE RESOLVED, that San Diego State University form a task force to investigate and make recommendations regarding the appropriateness of the continued usage of the Aztec moniker including symbols, signage, logos, branding, buildings, statues (e.g., Monty), awards (e.g., Zuma) and other references to the possible misappropriation of Aztec Identity. This task force shall also make recommendations regarding an education component in relation to the Aztec identity."

The 2018 AITF created a survey for all SDSU students; the survey questions and format were approved by President Roush and Associated Students President Chemize Ebiriekwe. The survey opened on February 28, 2018, a reminder was sent on March 4, 2018 and the survey closed on March 8, 2018. The survey link was sent by email from MarCom to 31,417 Students. The anonymous survey blocked multiple voting by monitoring IP addresses. While it may have been possible for Students to email the link to another device to vote more than one time, it was deemed unlikely that widespread "ballot stuffing" would occur. Survey results were monitored carefully, and it did not appear that much, if any, ballot stuffing occurred, based on voting trends and consistency of results with other surveys.

The Student Survey was also modified to include two additional questions, one that asked if they had explored information on the Aztecs on their own, and the other to ask if they supported the

development and administration of education on the Aztecs within the University. The questions were:

1. Do you as a student believe further education related to the Aztecs would be beneficial?

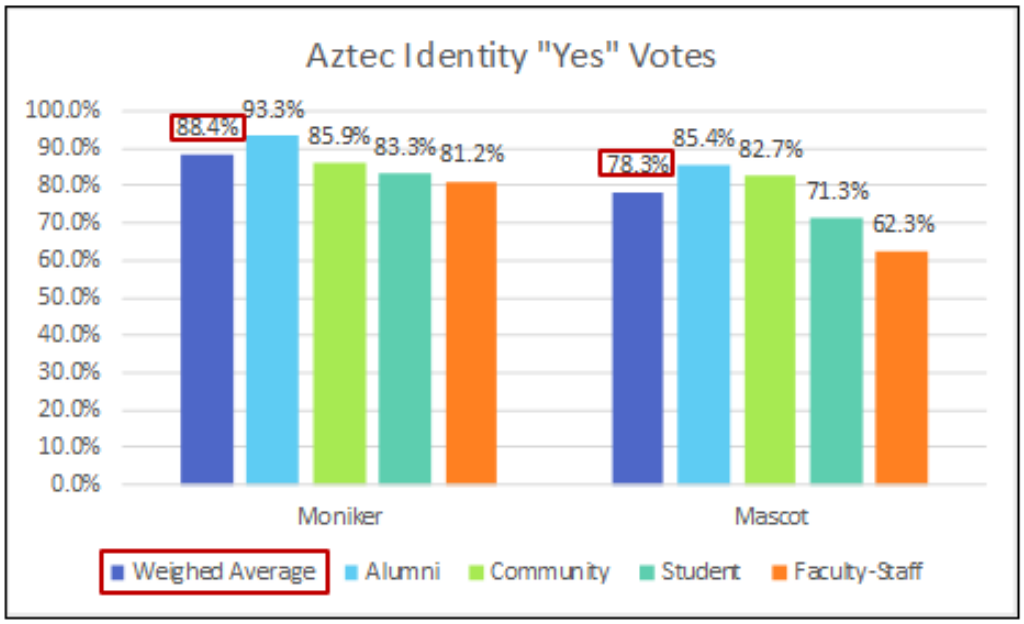
2. Have you taken any measure of attaining cultural competency pertaining to Aztec and/or Indigenous People?

The AITF found it enlightening that 74.8% of students were very much in favor of incorporating education on the Aztec and other indigenous people into University curriculum. In addition, 62.5% of student respondents indicated that they had pursued such information on their own.

The final survey was to the community and as noted above, was administered by Luth Research after being constructed by the AITF. In addition to the two standard questions and comment section, the Community members were asked additional questions:

- Are you an SDSU Faculty, Staff, Student or Alumni of SDSU who has already taken a survey pertaining to this topic? [No = Continue, Yes = terminate survey]
- Zip code, gender, age, salary, education, etc. [to ensure a diverse population]

As documented in Appendix F, the retention of the Moniker was agreed upon by more than 80% of all respondents, regardless of which stakeholder group they represented. The retention of the mascot was more diverse, with 62.3% of Faculty and Staff respondents voting to retain the mascot, the lowest of all stakeholder groups. Overall, however, it must be noted that the majority of all respondents were in favor of retaining both but did so with some clear messages as to how this should be done.



Qualitative Responses

There was a total of 6,128 qualitative comments that deserved to be 'listened to' and as such the AITF requested that a team of doctoral students with specialization in qualitative data analysis be hired to theme and then code the data (see Appendix G Codebook and Final Report). The team provided a detailed overview of which the following excerpt captures their attention to detail:

> The data set was delivered in four separate samples: Alumni, students, faculty/staff and community. Each data set was then scrambled, arranged alphabetically and then provided to the four qualitative analysis team members. In order to ensure a sense of interrater reliability, each data set was split four ways and an equal portion of each sample was assigned per analysis team member. This helped to ensure stability of responses to multiple coders across the four data sets. Team leaders established a common platform for coding (Qualitative analysis software - Dedoose) and developed a preliminary code list based only on the survey questions.

The PhD Team categorized the dominant themes of the comments. The tables below list those themes plus their descriptions:

"For" Themes	Description
Appropriate / respectful	View current representation as appropriate and/or respectful
Family	Cite moniker/mascot as instilling a sense of connection to family
Honoring	View use of moniker/mascot as honoring Aztec culture
Identity	Cite moniker/mascot as part of school identity
Not offensive	Not offended by use or current representaion
Pride	Cite moniker/mascot as instilling a sense of pride in school
Tradition / History	View moniker/mascot as part of school traditions and/or history

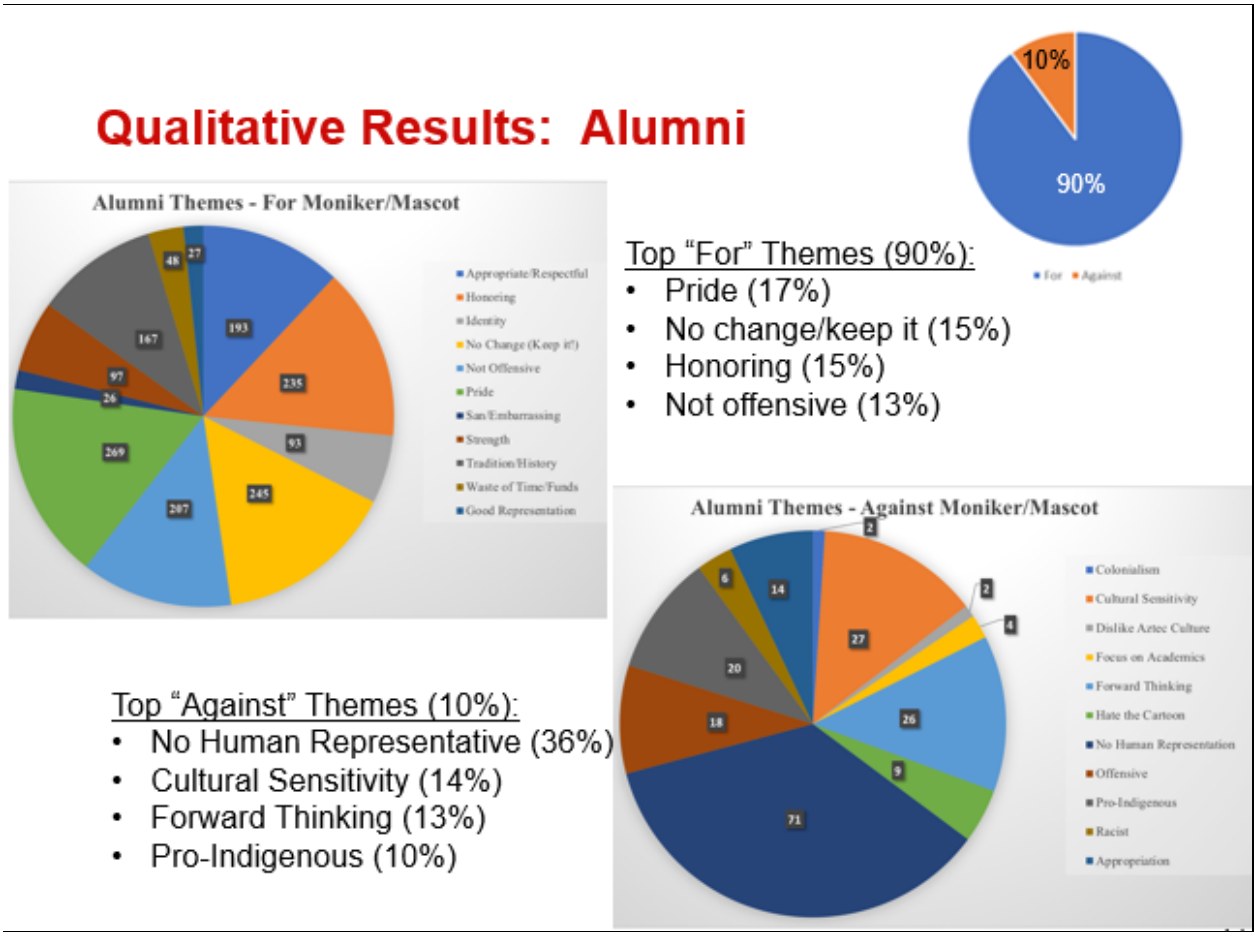
"Against" Themes	Description
Appropriation	View use of Aztec/indigenous moniker/mascot as cultural appropriation
Culturally insensitive	View moniker/mascot as insensitive to the cultural group it represents
Dislikes Aztecs	General dislike for the Aztec moniker and/or mascot
Forward thing	Argues for forward thinking and alignment with more inclusive policies
No human representation	View human representation as problematic
Offensive	View moniker/mascot as offensive
Racist	Points directly to connections to system issues of racism

Alumni Qualitative Results:

This population had the largest data. The majority of the comments were in reference to SDSU sporting events. Data analysis found the following to be salient across the comments:

- The Aztec is the main identity for alumni
- More than majority of alumni did not find either the moniker or mascot to be offensive
    - Alumni did not find the moniker/mascot to be examples of appropriation. They found it to be expressing appreciation of the Aztec culture
- Majority of alumni expressed withholding funds AND support if SDSU changes the moniker/mascot ("no Monty, no money")
- Alumni urged the institution to consider SDSU's branding and reputation that has been developed over the years. Removing or changing of the moniker/mascot would become be detrimental to the culture and name of the university

A summary of the Alumni Qualitative Results is shown below (extracted from the AITF Final Report-out presentation):

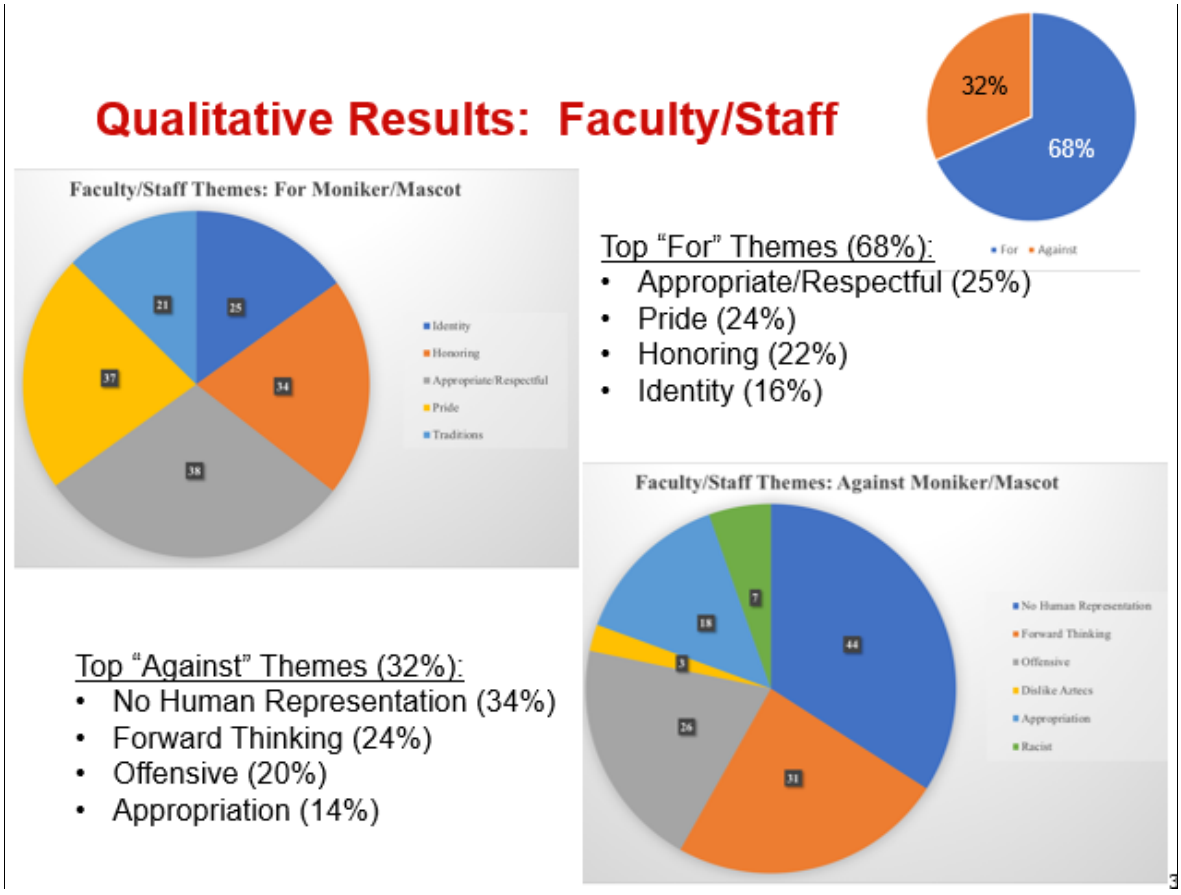


Faculty & Staff Qualitative Results:

Faculty and staff were more explicit in their comments regarding the issue. The following points highlight some of the initial findings:

- Many faculty and staff supported the name, but did not like the human representation
- Some faculty and staff argued that SDSU should be a leader and change the mascot

A summary of the Faculty/Staff Qualitative Results is shown below (extracted from the AITF Final Report-out presentation):

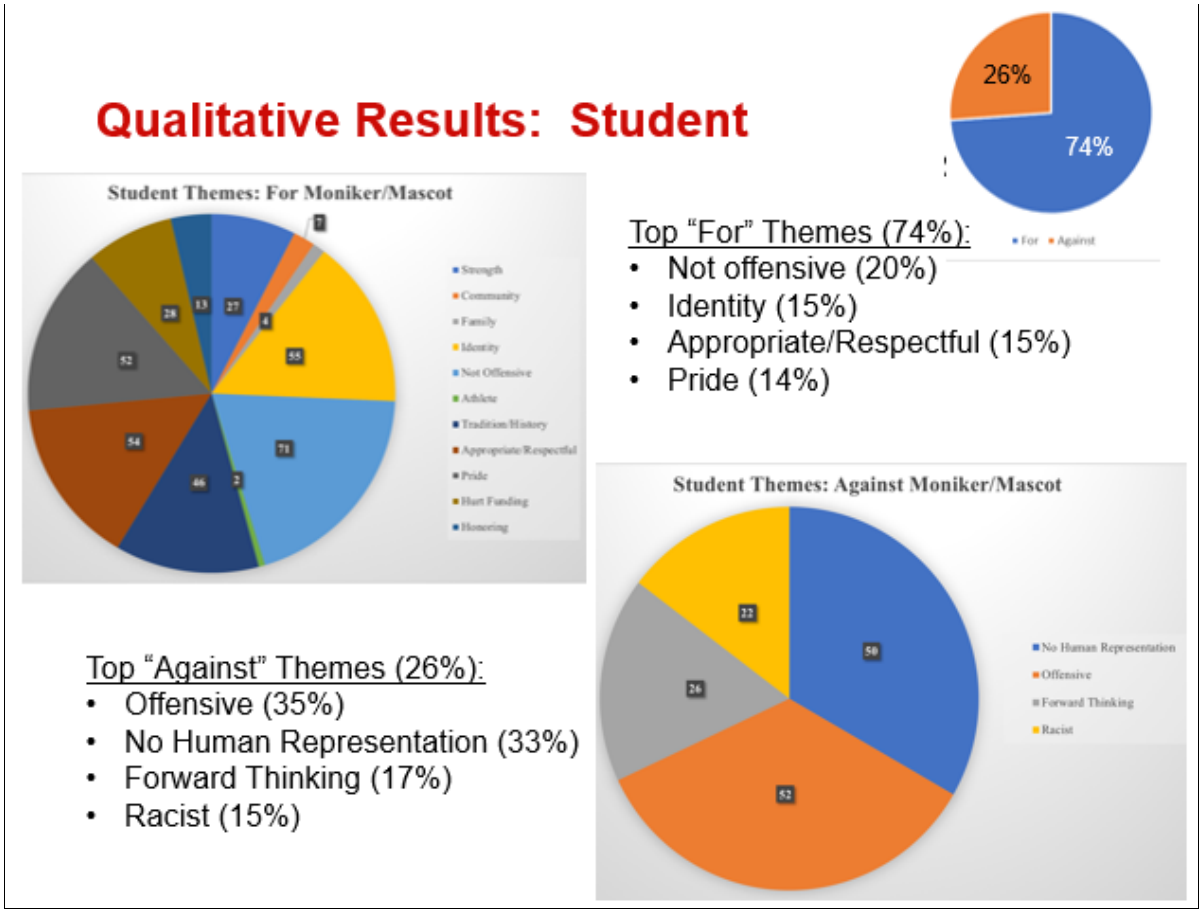


Student Qualitative Results:

The student feedback had the most robust responses. The comments varied between supporting/removing the moniker/mascot:

- Majority did not find the moniker and mascot to be offensive and found it to be honoring the culture
- Majority recommend having more representation and courses to educate students about the history and culture of the Aztecs
- Those offended expressed that SDSU should change the moniker/mascot because it was racist and read as cultural appropriation
- Other students noted that changing the identity of SDSU will hurt future funding and support from current students and alumni and would hurt the identity and culture for students
- A few expressed that the human representation is offensive and should be reconsidered to be presented in other forms
- If SDSU decides to keep the mascot, the person representing the Aztec should be of Aztec or Hispanic descent

A summary of the Student Qualitative Results is shown below (extracted from the AITF Final Report-out presentation):

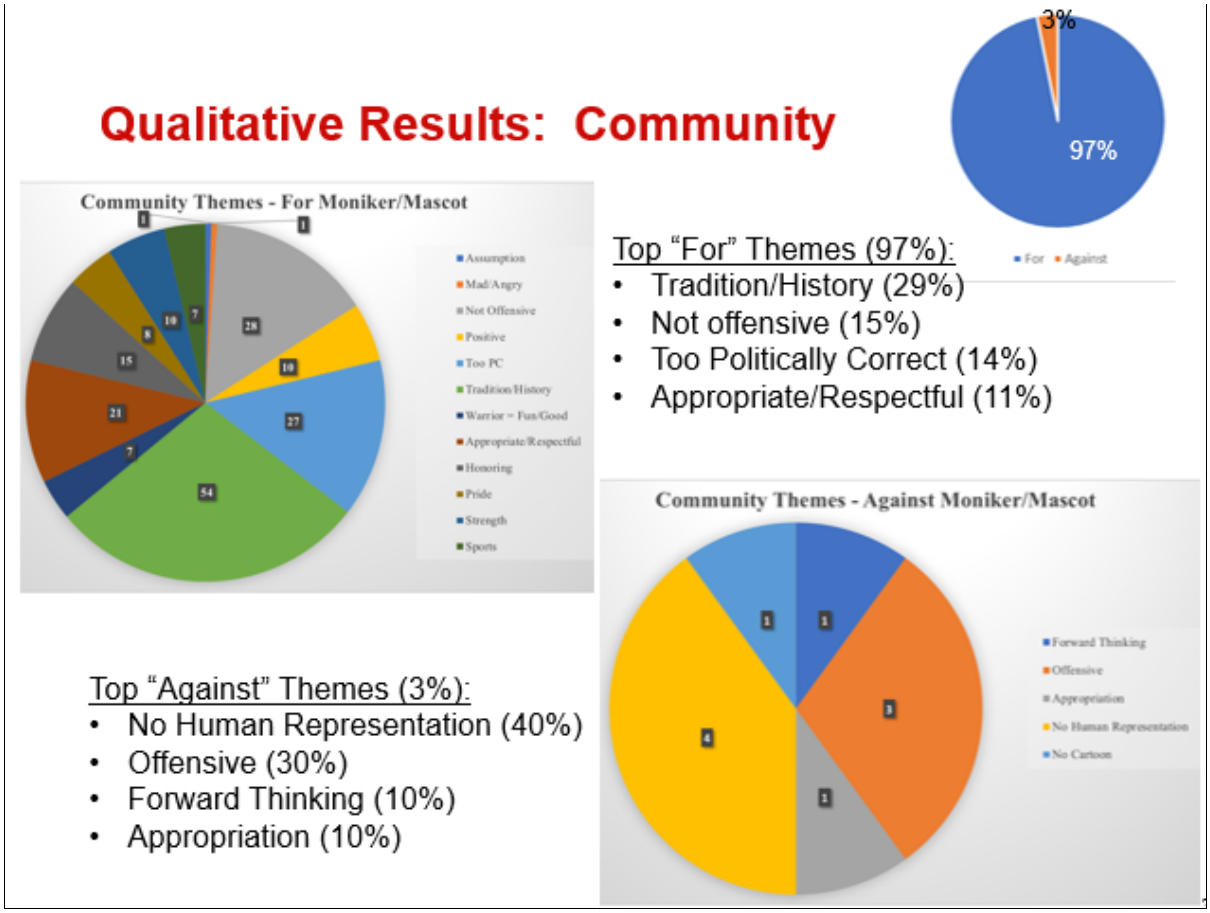


Community Qualitative Results:

This population had the least data. Most of the data was really short and not relevant in either supporting or rejecting the use of the current moniker/mascot. Some findings of the data suggested the following from the community:

- The focus of the survey was a waste of time
- Findings indicated that most of the community members were in favor keeping the mascot
- Some suggested changing the name and/or the human representation mascot with an animal figure

A summary of the Community Qualitative Results is shown below (extracted from the AITF Final Report-out presentation):



Self Identification

Although we did not seek demographic data, many respondents self-identified as Indigenous, Native American, Mexican, or as Hispanic/Latino and situated their comments according to this identity. Of the 137 comments from these groups, 87% were positive and in favor of retaining the moniker. The qualitative review team noted that, "Majority of Native decent and Mexican heritage found the Aztec identity as a source of preserving the culture" (p.4). In their summary of themes and representative comments, they provided the following as a representation of those who self-identified as having Mexican Heritage:

> *I believe that the Aztec moniker honors the Aztec people and other indigenous people. I have family in certain areas of Mexico such as Mexico City area and Yucatan which are both places rich in indigenous culture. I have discussed this topic with some of my family members and they feel proud that such a prestigious school in America would represent them in such a big and honorable way.*

As a first generation Mexican-American, I am extremely PROUD that our local state university celebrates my culture, and the culture of a majority of our local population. It's an ode to our roots to have the Aztec be SDSUs mascot. I was never offended as a student, nor am I offended today to have the Aztec warrior be represented in any way. It promotes learning of another culture.

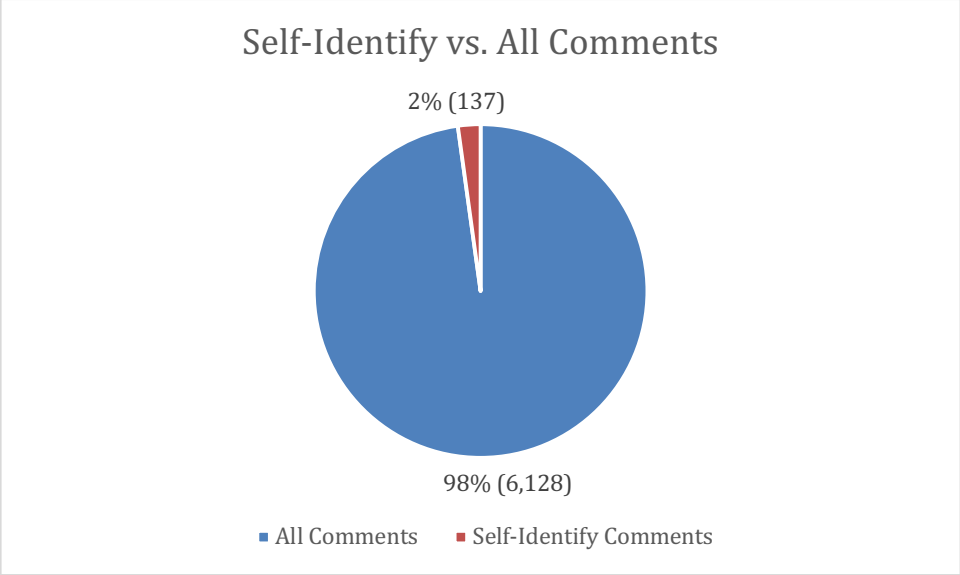
For Native Heritage, the following was gleaned:

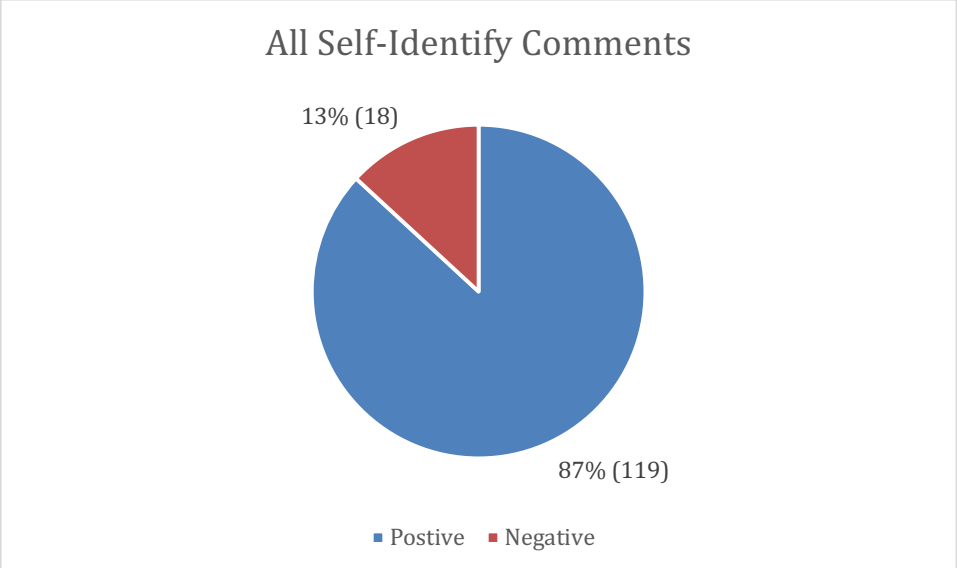
I cannot even begin to describe the frustration I have with this topic. I am a 1997 graduate and I'm also an enrolled member of a local San Diego tribe. The Aztec mascot has never and will never be about any type of racism or offense of Native people. That is not only my opinion but the opinion of every Native I've ever spoken to regarding this "issue".

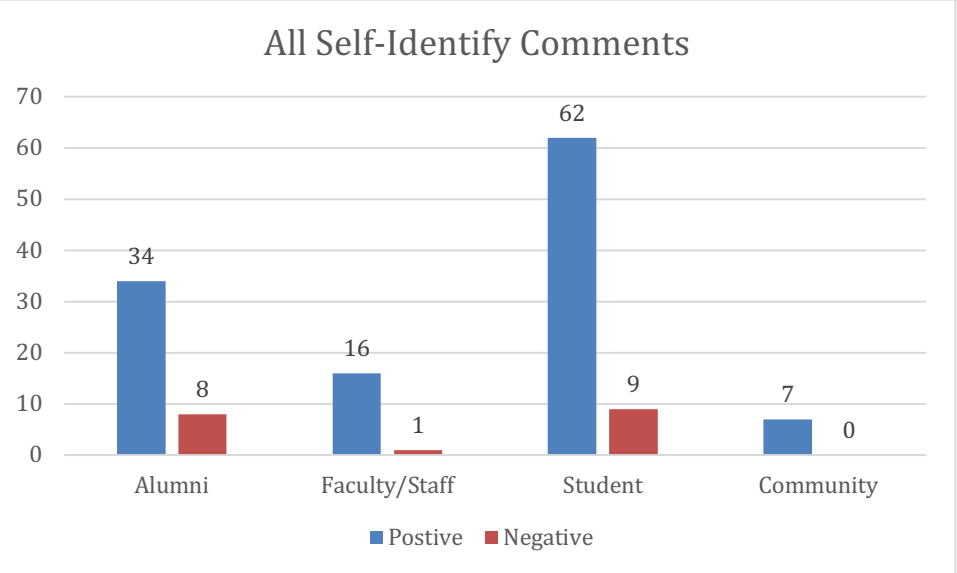
On the negative side of Native Heritage:

Having the Aztec as our mascot teaches the students of SDSU that cultural appropriation is okay, this mascot does not represent academia and strength, it shows how the painful history and rich traditions of native people are used for entertainment and this school clearly does not care about the psychological damage it does to native student like myself, we need to acknowledge the culture of all.

The AITF asked to have the respondents who self-identified in these categories enumerated in the same manner as the primary groups. The comments from persons who identified as indigenous, Native American, or Mexican weighed heavily on the positive side of the moniker/mascot, while those who self-identified as Hispanic had a fairly even weighting between positive and negative.




All Self-Identify Comments
13% (18)
87% (119)
Postive
Negative


All Self-Identify Comments
70
60
50
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30
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34
8
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9
7
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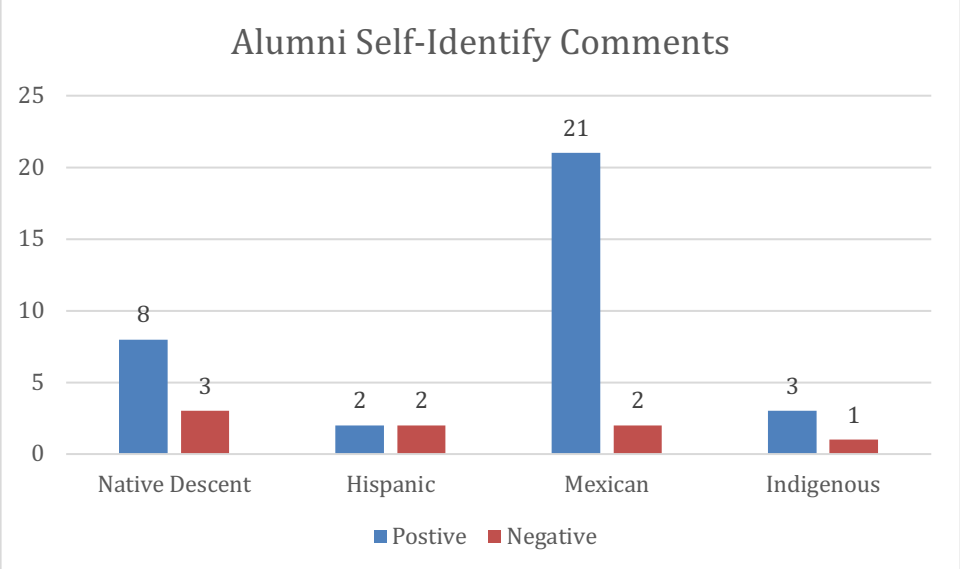
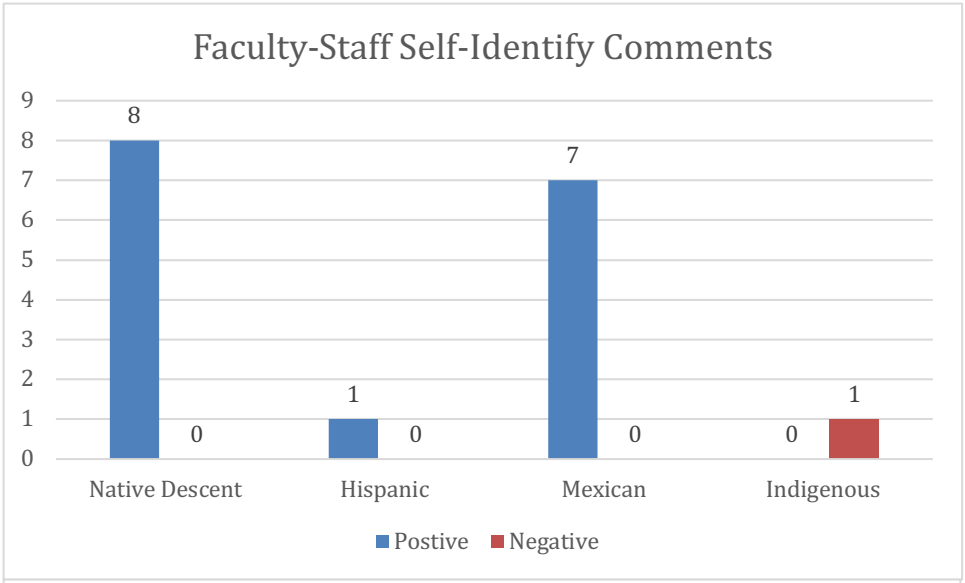
Alumni
Faculty/Staff
Student
Community
Postive
Negative


Alumni Self-Identify Comments
25
20
15
10
5
0
8
3
2
2
21
2
3
1
Native Descent
Hispanic
Mexican
Indigenous
Postive
Negative


Faculty-Staff Self-Identify Comments
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8
7
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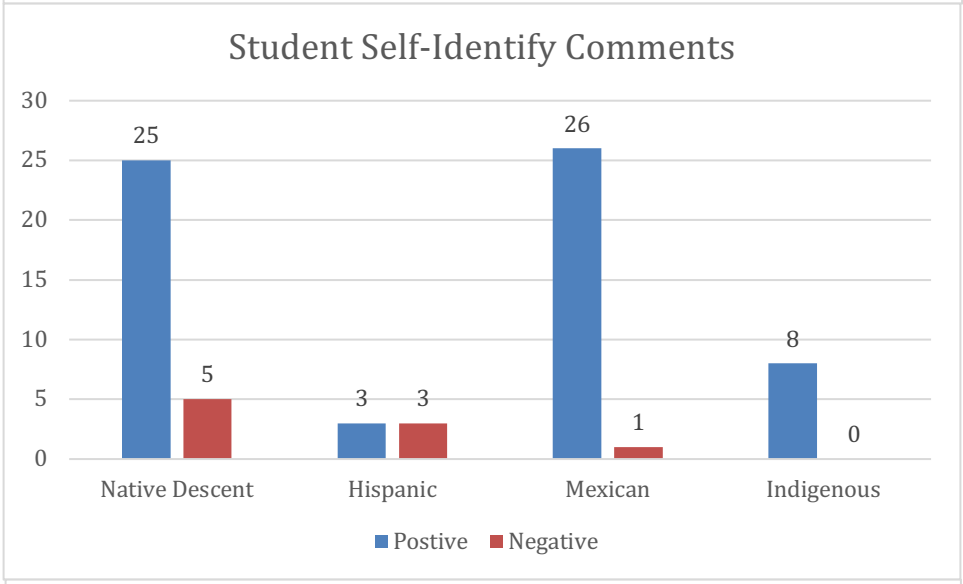
Native Descent
Hispanic
Mexican
Indigenous
Postive
Negative


Student Self-Identify Comments
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25
20
15
10
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0
25
5
3
3
26
1
8
0
Native Descent
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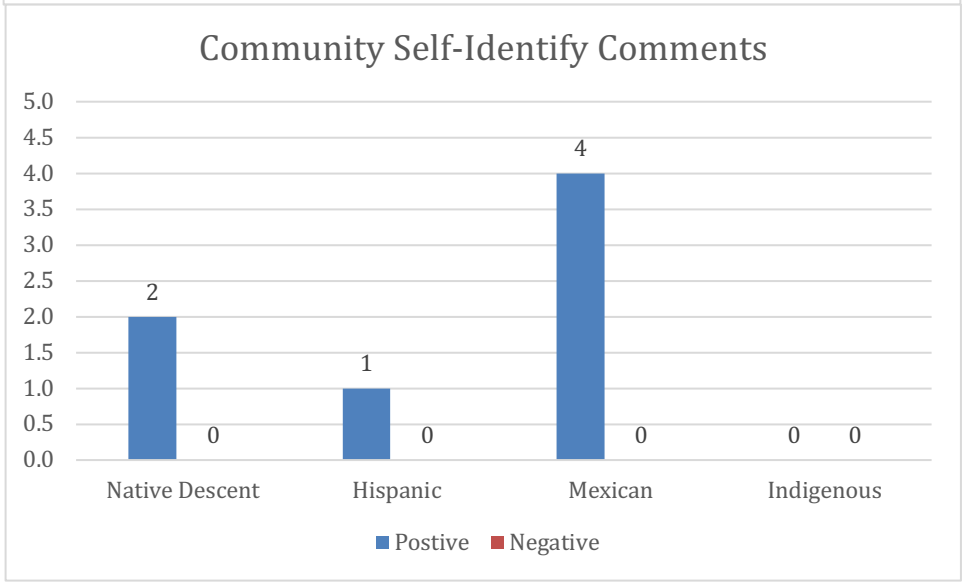
Mexican
Indigenous
Postive
Negative


Community Self-Identify Comments
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4.5
4.0
3.5
3.0
2.5
2.0
1.5
1.0
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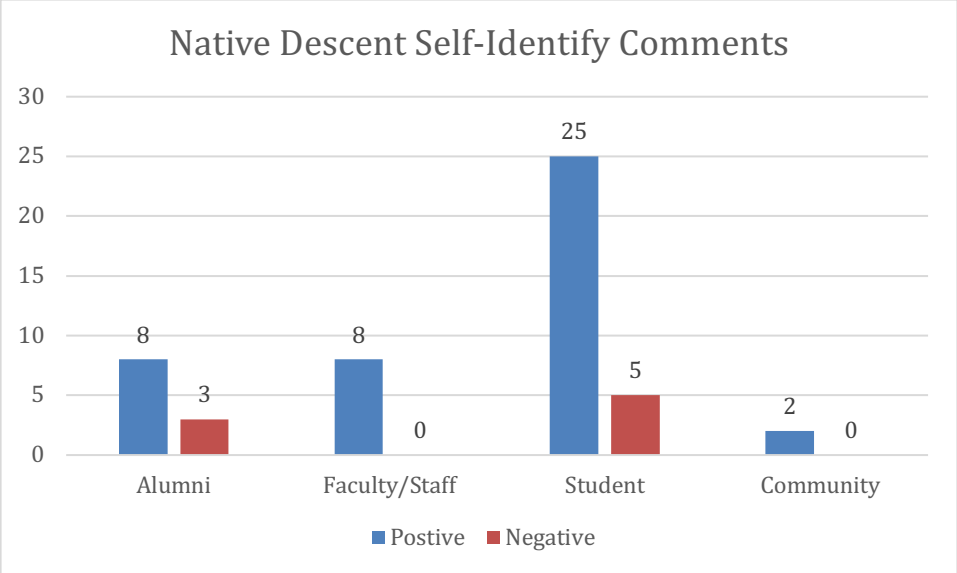
Mexican
Indigenous
Postive
Negative


Native Descent Self-Identify Comments
30
25
20
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2
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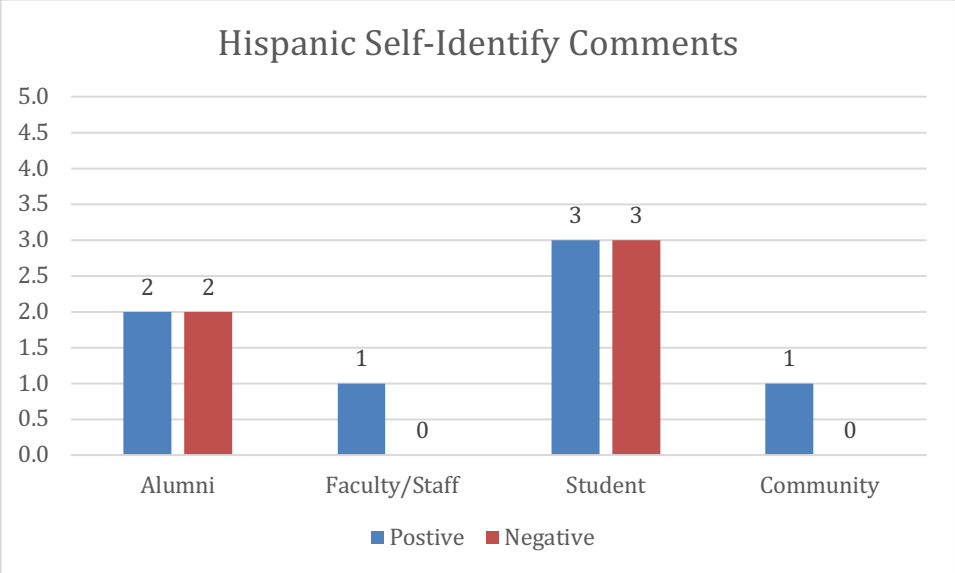
Alumni
Faculty/Staff
Student
Community
Postive
Negative


Hispanic Self-Identify Comments
5.0
4.5
4.0
3.5
3.0
2.5
2.0
1.5
1.0
0.5
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2
2
1
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3
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1
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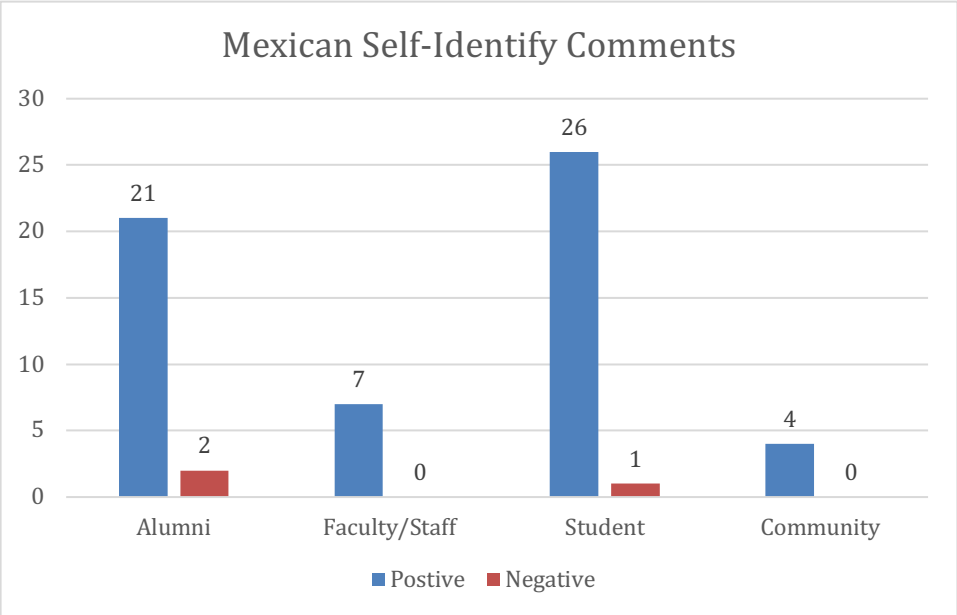
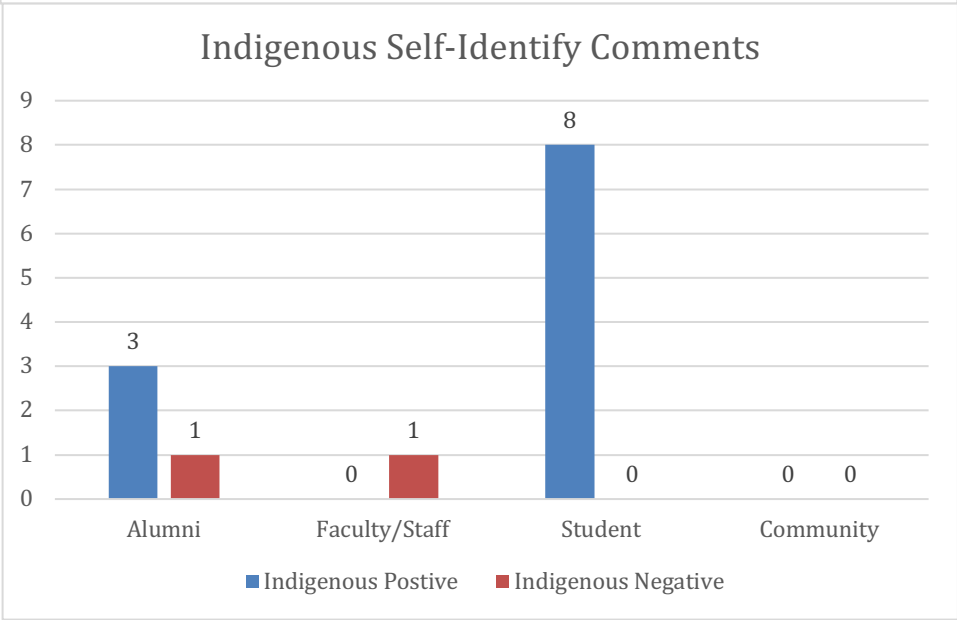
Alumni
Faculty/Staff
Student
Community
Postive
Negative





Overall, the doctoral team's analysis is well documented and provides a rich understanding of the sentiments of the many sides to this issue. While it is not possible to reduce these comments down to one or two primary issues, it became clear that a key issue for most all people is ***respect***. As the University moves forward, this one primary concept should stand out as guiding principle for whatever actions are taken now and in the future.

That said, the comments present some important ideas to consider including the distinct feelings of disrespect and racism that many who are opposed to the human representation cited. In addition to these two themes, many who opposed the retention of the mascot noted that the offense created by the human mascot should encourage the University to consider a non-human

alternative and that this would reflect the values of the Mission Statement and the desire to create an inclusive campus.

Across both supporters and detractors was a call for respecting the diverse Native American and indigenous communities of the region, and in particular, to incorporate the Kumeyaay as part of the heritage of the University.

The issue of the spear as a symbol of the Aztec warrior was one of the issues that the AITF was asked to consider. We concur that it is an image of the warrior culture and we understand that the offense relative to its use in our logo is its correlation to war. Symbols are inherently ambiguous and rest not on consensus of their meaning but rather on a shared range of meanings that are recognized by members of a culture group. The AITF does not find the spear an inherently negative image and recognizes it as an important symbol of the Aztec Empire along with the atlatl, shield, obsidian knives, and other such paraphernalia of warrior culture. If the University chooses to retain it, the AITF recommends that this be done alongside the appropriate and respectful use of other utilitarian symbols that define the Aztec emphasis on education and commitment to the community as a whole. These other symbols should be developed through recommendations from the Education committee and incorporated into the overall learning strategy.

Education was called for by most all respondents, both in favor and against the retention of the moniker. This presents a grand opportunity for the University to honor its status as a Hispanic Serving Institution, an honor that has rarely been acknowledged on our websites and other social media, in our accomplishments, in our mission statement, or in any of our goals.

The complete interpretive report is included in the Appendices as Appendix G, Final Codebook and Report on Qualitative Data.

IV. Conclusions and Recommendations

There appears to be great support to retain the Aztec moniker. If the University chooses to do so, we offer several recommendations that are drawn from the 2001 AITF report and from the survey responses, emails, social media, and our own research.

The 2001 AITF report provided a set of general recommendations that we repeat in this report. We ask that it be noted that not all members of the AITF 2018 are in agreement with the first recommendation that approves of the continued use of a human symbol for the mascot. Our reasons for dissent are not homogenous but culminate around the issue that many people from within and outside the SDSU community are offended by a human re-enactment that is read as an offensive form of cultural appropriation. The mimicking of the strength and prowess of the Aztec warrior through our athletes is an honorable charge and the dissenting voices of the AITF recognize the warrior commitment toward honor for the community, personal care and development of the body, and prestige garnered through the athletes' actions as being appropriately cultivated by our Athletics department. We do not, however, believe that an external symbol in the form of a human mascot does justice to this call and in fact, draws this away from our athletes. Nevertheless, the AITF as a team endorses the remaining recommendations without hesitation:

- *It is appropriate to use a variety of symbols from Aztec culture throughout the campus community, including human and animal as well as other symbols, as long as they are culturally appropriate and historically accurate.*
- *We support the report from the Aztec Education Task Force and recommend the university go even further in these efforts.*
- *SDSU should continue and strengthen its programs and activities to support indigenous peoples.*

  With any symbol, human, or animal depiction used, the designers must understand all of the nuances, subtleties, history, spirituality, symbolism and other issues associated with that particular item.

We elaborate on these recommendations and focus on six key areas:

A. Education,
B. Governing body to ensure the ethical, moral and fiduciary responsibility of carrying the Aztec name,
C. Meaningful engagement with the Native American and indigenous communities of the US and Mexico,
D. Appropriate signage and symbolic representation of the Aztec Empire and contemporary Nahua people across the campus,
E. Respectful and correct use of the Nahuatl language by the University, including and especially in the invocation of such in awards and other forms of recognition, and
F. Stricter guidelines for mascot representation, monitoring and enforcement of said guidelines.

A. Education

The AITF begins an outline of an education framework for the SDSU community, on and off campus, with a recognition of three pillars that scholars believe defined the worldview of the Aztec Empire: Education, Strength/Prowess, and Commitment to Community[1]. Miguel Léon-Portillo, renowned Mexican scholar of the Nahuatl speaking people of the Aztec Empire, devoted his scholarly career to unearthing the philosophical basis of their worlds.[2] He argues that there was a distinction between philosophers and priests, with philosophers being teachers, psychologists, moralists, cosmologists, metaphysicians, and humanists (as well as engineers). While the priests promoted the warrior culture, the *Tlatolmatinime* focused on the guiding

[1] The AITF recognizes that these three elements of their worldview had both peaceful and warfare interpretations and that the people of the Empire wrestled with how to live these components. For example, Strength was also understood as power over others, and Commitment to Community included sacrifice of self and others for the power of the Empire to survive and prosper. We are not naïve to such understandings but hold that, similar to our own culture, it is in the teaching of such ideas that the positive side of these ideas will prosper.

[2] See included bibliography for the resources relative to the work of Léon-Portillo that were reviewed by members of the AITF.

principles of *Quetzacóat*l, who was worshipped as the deity of knowledge and art, as well as *Tláloc,* the peaceful deity of rain and vegetation. Much of the literature associated with education rests on his work but also on the subsequent archaeology, analyses of the codices produced by Nahua priests and Spanish friars, and the oral and written poems of the priests of the Aztec Empire. In general, education was formal and highly developed with strict modes of learning from childhood through adulthood. At 12 boys went to formal school, either to *Telpochcalli* (house of youth but also argued that it was a school that trained them for warfare) or were sent to the *Calmécac* where rhetoric was a central skill taught along with the divine songs, arts of chronology and astrology, and history. Key to the Calmécac was the formation of 'a true face and heart'. Women were educated as well, and scholars note that there were special schools for girls.

Note: Images presented here are graphical representations of architecture that was drawn from the archaeology of Tenochtitlán

We begin with the education portion of our recommendations as we hold that when education is placed primary in the mission of a people, and that education serves as the foundation for their future, the remaining goals are more easily constructed and are more durable.

At the end of the 2016-2017 academic year, a committee of campus partners to include faculty, staff, and students was formed to address the need for a comprehensive educational plan. The committee was formed as a result of the various movements on campus to address the multiple issues surrounding Aztec identity, including the lack of engagement with other indigenous groups locally and within the history of the Aztec Empire. The committee was convened and moderated by Christy Samarkos, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs. Faculty member Ramona Pérez has been an active participant in this committee since its inception. Although the recommendation for an extensive education plan was part of the 2001 AITF report, the current

Aztec Culture Education Committee (ACEC) drew its charge from the 2008 Associated Students Referendum:

> Implementation of an Aztec Culture Project. The Project will include three elements intended to promote historically accurate portrayals of the Aztec Culture: new botanical gardens around the campus that include indigenous plantings from areas where the Aztecs thrived, a glass-mosaic mural that depicts historically accurate images portraying the origins of the Aztec Culture, and educational programs about the Aztec Culture that would be offered to all new SDSU students.

The ACEC formed the following objectives and work plan:[3]

San Diego State University will enrich the environment and deepen campus learning, both inside and outside the classroom, by enhancing Aztec Culture Education knowledge and understanding by strategically:

- Expanding opportunities for scholarship regarding Aztec Culture through innovative courses, experiences, and engagement. (Curricular)
- Creating and fostering environments that provide opportunities for students, faculty, staff and the community to participate in intentional experiences regarding Aztec Culture outside of the classroom. (Co-Curricular)
- Establishing and promoting Aztec Arts and Culture on campus and beyond the university through installation of art displays and cultural event opportunities. (Arts and Culture)
- Producing appropriate messaging and a communication plan to highlight and make visible the Aztec Culture Education that is occurring and honoring the culture. (Communication Plan)

Curricular	**Co-Curricular**	**Arts and Culture**	**Communication Plan**
• Language and culture course(s) • University Historian • Online Education ProgramNew course development and revision of existing courses • Funding for development and initial teaching of new courses • Review of existing courses and opportunity to modify current courses	• Speaker Series and/or conferences to include, panel discussions, visiting scholars on and from Nahua culture, and experts on the Aztec Empire • Online Education Program • Athletics – athlete training; images; and fan education	• Art displays • Music & Dance • Art or mural commissioned • Healing Garden • Aztec names: definition/description of Aztec Names used on campus (at site of use &/or archived)	• Online platform – easy access to educational information • Published materials • Scripts for events • Social Media • Messaging

[3] Special thanks to Christy Samarkos for providing the details and tables that form this portion of the Education report.

ACEC members volunteered to participate in the development of the various projects and many of these initiatives have begun. In the course of the deliberations of the ACEC it became evident that Aztec culture education would include education on the myriad of indigenous groups that formed the Empire, contemporary descendants of the Aztec people who continue to speak Nahuatl and form the Nahua culture groups, and other indigenous groups that are part of SDSU history. The inclusion of educational materials and practices that engage these encompassing groups acknowledges their significance and builds on the principles of respect and inclusion at SDSU. Key to the success of the educational programming is funding. New course development and modifications to existing courses should be supported through additional resources to the existing academic budget. The following are summaries of the projects that have been developed, and in some cases, placed into action, by the ACEC.

Nahuatl Language and Culture

Overview

The Nahuatl language remains one of the most dominant indigenous languages of the Mesoamerican region and is situated within the valley of Mexico and extends to El Salvador. It was the official language of the ancient people commonly known as Aztecs by scholars of preContact Mesoamerica. Today, it is estimated that there are 1.5 million Nahua speakers of Nahuatl. The course sequence for Nahuatl at San Diego State University rests on the coursework developed by Dr. John Sullivan through the *Instituto de Docencia e Investigación Etnológica de Zacatecas (IDIEZ)* and the Council on Latin American and Iberian Studies at Yale University. The online and live streaming course is supported through a cooperative of universities to include UCLA, Stanford, University of Utah, University of Michigan and Yale. SDSU has the opportunity to join the cooperative, known as the Western Alliance for Nahuatl (WAN), by providing access to our existing Mixtec language program to the partners. The WAN provides shared course activities, projects, and online materials in addition to those provided by the IDIEZ. The Center for Latin American Studies at SDSU is renowned for its teaching and research of indigenous languages and cultures of Mexico in both the academic year and summer immersion programming. The Nahuatl language and culture program will form part of the existing programs on culture and language to include Mixtec/Mixteco and Zapotec/Zapoteco.

Structure

The course offerings from IDIEZ encompass up to four semesters and the opportunity for winter, spring, and summer immersion programs (study abroad) in the Huasteca in central Mexico. Courses are broadcast through Zoom and created for SDSU. Courses must take place in the mornings in order to accommodate the instructors' schedules with other universities. SDSU provides a Teaching Assistant with advanced Nahuatl language skills that is available during the course broadcast, holds office hours, and provides feedback on course activities. Suggested course capacity is a maximum of 15 students. In addition, we are required to sponsor one of the Nahuatl instructors to come to campus for one week each semester to work with students, the TA, and the larger campus to assure that the language instruction includes appropriate culture learning.

Timeline

The first semester of Nahuatl was offered in the spring 2018 semester as LATAM 296. The courses will be offered as LATAM 130 Elementary Nahuatl; LATAM 131 Elementary Nahuatl II; LATAM 230 Intermediate Nahuatl I; and LATAM 231 Advanced Intermediate Nahuatl once they have completed the curricular review and approval process. A three-semester sequence for Nahuatl fulfills the foreign language requirements for SDSU.

Funding

The ACEC received the approval for this course and its subsequent holdings based on funding from SDSU Administration. To date, **no funding** has been provided by the SDSU Administration and the College of Arts and Letters has had to cover the costs of the course, the teaching assistant, and travel and housing for Dr. Sullivan's visit in March. The failure to produce a secure budgetary line item is reflective of the trends of the past commitments toward education relative to Aztec identity and must be addressed.

University History Curator

Although not directly tied to Aztec culture, the issues surrounding inaccurate renditions of the moniker, mascot, stakeholders, processes and practices have complicated the SDSU community's ability to appropriately address the issue. The position was opened by the Office of the Provost and Dr. Seth Mallios of the Department of Anthropology has accepted the position.

Overview

A university historian provides the institution of higher education with essential campus expertise in research, teaching, development, and administrative capacities.

Purpose

Responsibilities of the University History Curator role would include:

Research

- Publish books and articles on campus history

Teaching

- Develop online training course for all students, faculty, and staff on essentials of SDSU cultural history; includes vignettes on Aztec culture education and spirit leader (mascot) issues

Development

- Write regular column for *360 Magazine*
- Lead tours for campus dignitaries
- Work frequently with Alumni Association on celebratory events, anniversaries, etc.
- Be on call for media requests involving university events, issues, etc.

Administrative

- Serve as an objective arbiter of internal disputes that involve campus history, traditions, symbols, etc.
- Contribute as researcher, team member, and expert witness for external issues that involve campus territories and expansion, strategic plans and vision, community impact, etc.

Online Educational Programming

The online educational program is conceived as short training sessions, similar to the many online training sessions that SDSU currently has for student organizations, faculty and staff advisors, supervisors, and administrators.

Overview

To educate campus community members regarding the University's connection and history with Aztec culture and to assist our community with the choices they make when representing a culture. The education program will help to educate about SDSU Aztec history and to ensure our cultural connections with the Aztec Culture is treated with honor and respect. Significant effort would be placed on representing the Aztec culture in appropriate ways while explaining the intentional and unintentional activities that minimize a culture.

Purpose

Provide an opportunity, through an online educational program, to students, faculty, staff, alumni and community members that will educate them regarding Aztec culture. The online education can be integrated into University Seminar courses, Recognized Student Organization trainings, including Advisor trainings, potentially offered at new employee orientation, etc.

Structure

Curriculum and content are currently being developed. Budgetary allocation for the development, technology, and software products has not been confirmed nor has the program been incorporated into any entity that would maintain its development and programming.

Campus wide Aztec Culture Education Speaker Series

Overview

Create an ongoing educational series regarding Aztec culture, contemporary Nahua people, and other indigenous and Native American peoples and cultures

Purpose

Collaborate with One SDSU series, the Provost, the Center for Latin American Students, Love Library, and the Aztec Student Union Programming Board to regularly bring speakers and speaker panels to SDSU to discuss Aztec culture and SDSU’s ongoing relationship to Aztec

culture. Key speakers and/or speaker panels, exhibitions, conferences, and other such integrative opportunities will be identified through campus partners and connected to diversity programming and campus speaker programs. These partnerships could include One SDSU Community programming, the Love Library Speaker Series, CLAS speaker series, the Provost's speaker series, and others.

Timeline

Each semester a committee will plan for at least one event that focuses on Aztec culture, contemporary Nahua people, and other indigenous and Native American peoples and cultures that will address realities and myths associated with the cultures and/or will highlight important elements and practices that extend the SDSU community's understandings and appreciation for non-Western thought. The event would follow the One SDSU Community marketing guidelines and timelines.

Athletic Initiatives – Steve Schnall

Overview

It is important for Athletics to better educate its student athletes and fans regarding Aztec Culture in order to enhance their collective experience and knowledge of the University's moniker. Additionally, the student representing the Aztec Warrior (Spirit Leader) should receive continuing education, to remain historically accurate in representing Aztec Culture in a positive manner.

Classroom Education

IN PROCESS/began in Fall 2017 with Dr. Mallios providing a lecture to the athlete sections of university seminar. Plans to provide this lecture again are in the works.

A program (lecture) for all freshman and sophomore student athletes in the first semester so that they can best understand Aztec Culture. This should include, but not be limited to, information provided by the Athletic Department on the symbolism of the Aztec logos and Aztec history and culture provided by a University professor.

Aztec Warrior

**Needs further discussion and understanding of University plan moving forward

It is important that the University refer to the Aztec Warrior as a "Spirit Leader" rather than a "Mascot". The word mascot demeans the culture, while Spirit Leader would best relate back to the culture and education provided to our students and fans.

Information Sheet (Fan Education)

Create an information sheet on the history of Aztec Culture, to be included in the information sent to all season ticket holders. Needs to be part of a comprehensive communication and marketing campaign.

Program Ad

The Athletic Department would provide ¼ page ad space to the University to promote a link for further education on Aztec Culture. Needs to be part of a comprehensive communication and marketing campaign.

Aztec Pride and Culture

This aspect of the ACEC is still under development and is contingent on the decisions made relative to Aztec Identity.

Overview

To help create Aztec Pride and Culture messaging and opportunities for Alumni and community members that will help to educate, inform and create opportunities to represent Aztec Culture accurately, respectfully and consistently.

The Alumni Association presented this concept to the Alumni Executive committee for feedback.

As a result of the conversation the board suggested:

- Hearing from focus groups on this issue
- Education with purpose, telling the accurate SDSU story, consistently to alumni and the community (360 magazine, social and online media platform, etc)
- Considering an alumnus of indigenous background as a board member to offer perspective on these important issues
- Utilizing the SDSU Alumni communication platforms for education and messaging on this issue

Art, Music and Culture Projects

Overview

Create ongoing educational and performance opportunities for Aztec culture from the perspective of Art, Music and Language.

Purpose

Collaborate with One SDSU series, Arts Alive, the Provost and Latin American Students, Love Library and the Aztec Student Union Programming Board to regularly provide Aztec art, music and language opportunities for the SDSU community. Key speakers/performances, art displays will be identified through campus partners and connected to current curricular and co-curricular offerings. These partnerships could include One SDSU Community programming, Arts Alive programming, Theater department performance offerings, the Love Library Speaker Series, the Provost's speaker series, Common Experience and others.

The Associated Students, Aztec Student Union Board (ASUB) has created a sub-committee currently called the "Beautification Committee". This committee is creating a multiple year plan to bring more pride into the student union through permanent facility enhancements as well as traveling exhibits and other events.

Proposed ideas to enhance Aztec Culture and Education in a culturally appropriate manner:

- Commissioning an artist to create an Aztec Mural within the Aztec Student Union
- Traveling Art Displays
- Music and Dance performances
- Creating plaques, pictures and education for the Aztec Student Union 2nd Floor Conference and Event rooms which have Aztec Names.

Restoration of current Aztec based symbols painted on the Art building. *Restoration of Art Building and Commission of Aztec Mural costs need to be explored further.

Indigenous Healing Garden

Overview

In 2003 a proposal was put forth to create a garden space on campus that featured the medicinal herbs and other plants that were used by the Nahuatl speaking people of Mexico. The plant life would be conducive to the San Diego climate and many of the plants may also be indigenous to the area. Although approved for implementation, the project was not undertaken.

We propose to modify this proposal to include culturally appropriate spatial organization and landscape elements and features including medicinal herbs and plants relative to the many indigenous people that now reside in the region: Kumeyaay, Nahua, Mixtec, and Zapotec peoples. The cultural landscape garden would be termed the *Indigenous Healing Garden* and would serve to feature the healing herbs but also to produce a space of quiet and solitude that might also be used for small gatherings. At a time when we need to 'heal' over the issue of indigenous identities, the landscape garden would metaphorically and literally provide the opportunity to do so. The landscape garden would provide the names in each language along with the cultural uses and scientific properties. Additional interpretive messaging and information on the cultural significance of the landscape garden and its individual features could be delivered on site or through a link to a website associated with the SDSU and partner organization websites.

Resources

Even though the landscape garden would be designed with an appropriate spatial organization and include plants that are indigenous to the cultural groups represented, development and maintenance are important considerations, as is the inclusion of representative healers from the indigenous groups in both design and stewardship. To do this effectively, we would need the following:

1. Space dedicated to the landscape garden. Existing Mediterranean garden area would be ideal.

2. SDSU landscaper to work with us. These plants tend to be annuals and thus must be maintained and replanted seasonally.
3. Landscape architect. Jim will contact Karen Adams who worked with him at State Parks.
4. Inclusion of local persons from the various groups, student groups on campus, and other important partners.

Pérez, a member of the ACEC, is a Co-PI on a USDA grant (with Chanqui Liu, David Larom, and John Love) that focuses on indigenous Mexican farming techniques and the recruitment of students with indigenous ancestry into agricultural sciences. The landscape garden could be incorporated into the program, which runs for the next two years.

Resource implications for this project are dependent on the space that is allocated by the University. Once a landscape architect has created a plan, the costs relative to the garden can be determined. The plants themselves would be a minimal cost and the ongoing maintenance is projected to be no different than the current allocations for landscaping maintenance in the area.

The ACEC felt it very important to have a full communication plan in place for many of these projects and activities. To that end, a communications plan was drafted to assure that appropriate and standard SDSU channels and processes are followed.

Planning and Communications Strategy for ACEC

The framework and strategic plan is being implemented to affirm San Diego State University's commitment to promoting historically accurate portrayals of native and indigenous cultures, knowledge, ideas and contributions. SDSU acknowledges its responsibility to educate the campus and broader community about the Aztecs and other Nahuatl speaking people of Mexico through educational, co-curricular, outreach-oriented and other programming.

Potential Key Messages and Perspective Points

- Enhancing the knowledge and understanding of native and indigenous cultures and contributions of these cultures deepens campus learning.
- SDSU strives to foster a campus environment that is inclusive of and responsive to the history, culture and contributions of native and indigenous populations.
- Ensuring a climate that is welcoming, respectful and responsive to community needs.
- Research indicates that the implementation of appropriate culture learning has important academic and social benefits for student populations.

Specific Focus Areas	Strategic Goals	Possible Tactics
Curricular	Integrate teachings on native, indigenous populations in a broader set of SDSU's curriculum	• An online and live streaming sequence for Nahuatl will be offered in partnership with several higher education institutions; Nahuatl instructors will be sponsored for campus visits and presentations. • Create a curriculum enhancement fund to support the development of new curriculum or enhancement of existing courses to integrate materials and teaching on indigenous populations. • Development of online training course for all students, faculty, and staff on essentials of SDSU cultural history.
Co-Curricular	Educate the on and off campus community about native and indigenous populations and amplify SDSU's historic and current connection with Nahuatl speaking peoples	• Campus tour scripts will be updated with specific information about native, indigenous populations. • Artworks and murals will become part of the built space to present culturally appropriate images of the culture and contributions. • Nahuatl translations of campus buildings/street signs/locations. • Invite Native American and indigenous representatives to major events. Where appropriate, integrate their ceremonial blessings or practices with SDSU practices. • Incorporation of Aztec culture into SDSU Campus West development. • Speaker series and other events will be hosted to discuss native and indigenous culture and symbols, and also SDSU's relationship to Aztec culture.
Student, Alumni Engagement	Improve knowledge, awareness and understanding of native and indigenous populations and their respective cultures, customs and symbols	
Campus Resources	Dedicate campus resources to the documentation of native and indigenous populations and the furthering of SDSU's educational commitment to Aztec Culture Education	• Hire a SDSU historian responsible for research and teaching; documentation on regional native and indigenous populations
Communication		• Introduction of Aztec Culture Education ideas through use of campus communication channels • Regular promotion of campus projects and events associated with education initiative via: SDSU social media accounts, NewsCenter, @State, the 360 Magazine and other e-newsletters, publications and sites • Include educational/informative messaging with season Athletics tickets

The AITF supports the plans and ideas put forth by the ACEC and recommends that this organization be further institutionalized and allowed to move forward with appropriate authority and funding for the various projects. It is critical that the education portion of any plan relative to Aztec identity be well-established, funded, and integrated into campus culture. To do otherwise, would be to dismiss the multivocal calls for *respect* that reverberate throughout the campus.

B. Governing body to ensure the ethical, moral and fiduciary responsibility of carrying the Aztec name

The AITF recommends an ongoing governing body be established to ensure cultural education and awareness programs are effectively implemented and funded throughout the University. We envision this group to be represented by SDSU Faculty and Staff, Athletics, Students, and Alumni. A proposed structure would include the following persons:

Chair: President of San Diego State University
Faculty and Staff: Chair of Aztec Education Committee and Chair or representative from the Academic Senate
Athletics: Athletic Director
Students: Current Associated Student's President
Alumni: Current Alumni President
Coordinator: Paid position that is responsible and accountable for committee's action items

This group shall be charged with meeting throughout the year to assure the implementation of the education and cultural awareness programs, hold the various organizations responsible for their respective contributions, and evaluate the success of such programs.

In addition, this group will determine funding for required programs to assure that permanent budget line items are adequately and continuously funded through all four campus divisions. The AITF recognizes that the SDSU budget is a complex process. We also note, however, that it is the budgetary and administrative areas were part of the failure of previous recommendations. We offer a suggested formula for creating a governing body that has both administrative and fiduciary responsibilities.

Faculty and Staff: President's line item funding for ongoing Nahuatl language and culture programming; Provost's funding for course development and enhancement; participation in the development of ongoing educational programs.
Athletics: Brand awareness, fan education, athlete education, mascot development.
Students: AS currently has funds earmarked for Aztec education. Student Services provide funding for ongoing broad educational and artistic programming relative to Aztec culture.
Alumni: Create funding option via alumni gifting to appropriately honor SDSU's Aztec identity.

It is also recommended that the Aztec Culture Education Committee that is currently formed as an ad hoc committee be institutionalized and placed as an organization under the Office of the President. The ongoing engagement of identification with the Aztec people requires collaboration across the University to include faculty, Student Services representatives, Athletics, and Associated Students.

C. Meaningful Engagement with Native American and Indigenous Communities of the US and Mexico

The AITF was apprised of the recent meeting that President Roush had with the 18 tribal leaders in San Diego County. The AITF believes that this and other such consultations should be made more public as there remains a belief, as evidenced in the CFA referendum, that SDSU has not consulted with local Native American groups with respect to Aztec identity. Beyond this meeting, partnership with local Native American tribes should be incorporated into our various functions and annual events.

- Inclusion into notable campus events (opening remarks) to include Convocation, Commencement, and various important athletic events.
- Invitations to ground breaking for construction, dedications, and grand openings
- Passing of the Torch of SDSU President.
- Expanding our current MOU with the Universidad de las Americas Puebla, who shares the Aztec moniker, to a more active and integrative relationship.
- Advance our relationship with IDIEZ who provides scholarship funding through their Nahuatl language programming to US universities for Nahuatl speakers that study at the Universidad Autónoma de Zacatecas.
- Support academic departments that provide outreach, internships, and service learning with Native American and indigenous organizations.
- Provide scholarships for Native American and indigenous students to advance their linguistic skills in native languages or whose studies seek to advance their communities.

D. Appropriate Signage and Symbolic Representation of the Aztec Empire and Contemporary Nahua People Across the Campus

The AITF recommends that SDSU continue to use this opportunity to enhance existing campus signage to better educate people in the history and culture of the Aztecs. Nahuatl signage on campus should be accompanied by the Nahuatl phonetic pronunciation of the word and its meaning/historical importance. An interactive map that locates all buildings and other relevant markers that hold Nahuatl names should be developed that provides the correct auditory pronunciation and a short explanation of the significance of the name in English and Spanish.

The AITF also notes that the class of 1937 took the liberty to place a plaque on the base of Donal Hord's sculpture, *Aztec,* naming the sculpture, 'Montezuma'. Although not intended, the renaming of an artist's work is improper and should be corrected as soon as possible. It is recommended that the signage be corrected with additional historical information about the sculptor and the sculpture's creation. A great deal of confusion and debate has been centered

around this sculpture because of the signage attached to the stone base that was gifted to the University by the class of 1937. Also, information should include the existence of a larger concrete replica of Hord's *Aztec* located in the rotunda of the Parma Payne Goodall Alumni Center. The signage could include the fact that Hord's *Aztec* sits in the center of the university's Prospective Student Center to greet incoming students while its replica sits at the Alumni Center symbolizing the completion of the students' journey. Both statues face each other separated by thousands of feet of SDSU campus, a phenomenon lost on most people.

Additionally, thoughtful considerations should be made to continue to embrace the Aztec culture with murals, gardens, and water features with accurate signage to educate people. These can represent living and breathing monuments to Aztec people of the past and the present.

E. Respectful and Correct Use of the Nahuatl Language by the University

The 2001 Report of the Task Force on Aztec Identity made a list of 'things that might be offensive, historically inaccurate and/or culturally inappropriate.' The list included the use of "Monty." The 2001 Task Force acknowledged the fact that SDSU has a long tradition with the use of the nickname "Monty" but recommended that the full name "Montezuma" should be used as a way of honoring and being respectful of the Aztec culture. The report stated that the use of the diminutive name "Monty" was unacceptable within the Aztec and Mexican cultures.

This recommendation has not yet been implemented. SDSU continues to annually bestow Monty awards to outstanding alumni, Faculty Monty awards to outstanding faculty members, and Zuma (drawn from the second half of the word, 'Montezuma') awards to outstanding staff members.

The 2001 Task Force stated that the use of a miniature replica of the statue derived from the Donal Hord statue on campus was an appropriate artistic representation and we concur. To be both historically and culturally appropriate, however, it is recommended that the name "Monty" and "Zuma" be removed from the awards.

Name replacement suggestions:

- from Faculty Montys to Aztec Faculty Excellence Awards,
- from Monty Awards for outstanding alumni to Aztec Alumni Excellence Awards,
- from Zuma Awards for staff excellence to Aztec Staff Excellence Awards.

F. Guidelines for Mascot Representation

If it is determined that a human mascot continues at SDSU, stricter guidelines for the representation of the mascot should be established to include monitoring and enforcement. SDSU Athletics has current guidelines for the Aztec Warrior's behavior, adhering to recommendations from the 2001 Aztec Identify Task Force Report. (See Appendix H "Aztec Warrior Behavioral Guidelines").

The guidelines are addressed as “Do’s and Don’ts” and provide basic guidance to students portraying the Aztec Warrior. A review should occur to ensure respectful and appropriate behaviors and to strengthen the Athletic Department’s oversight of the Aztec Warrior.

Deportment of the Aztec warrior should be reviewed to ensure the following:

- Historically accurate - Ensure appropriate representation toward historical accuracy
- Regal - Identified in the current guidelines but should be broadened to mitigate behaviors that could be perceived as disrespectful. (ex. Eliminate push-ups in the end zone of the football field)
- Dignified - expand behaviors to avoid negative engagement with opposing fans
- Respect/Engagement - avoid engagement with alcohol and/or impaired fans; always engage in a positive manner and handle situations respectfully

Recruitment of Aztec warrior, regalia of warrior uniform

- Expand and incentivize recruitment efforts
- Diligence in historical representation
- Explore and collaborate with Aztec Warrior regalia with representatives from Mexico

Education of SDSU Athletes/Aztec Warrior

- Expand historical reference materials provided to Aztec Warrior candidates
- Require completion of Aztec civilization and culture material as a requirement (to be developed)

Final Comments

The members of the AITF 2018 would like to express our appreciation for the opportunity to have served the SDSU community. Our assignment was not easy and weighed heavily on each of us. We agreed to serve because the issue was important to us and to our fellow colleagues and community members and because we each believed we could undertake the task with the intention of offering a long-term resolution that could be respected, if not necessarily agreed upon, by most stakeholders. We hope we have succeeded in providing a framework for the heavy decision before you, President Roush.

Respectfully submitted,

The AITF 2018

V. Bibliography

Bibliography
Aztec Identity Task Force 2018

The following references were invoked by the AITF in the deliberations surrounding our charge, in our investigation of the issues surrounding said charge, and in our investigation of the Aztec Empire and contemporary Nahua people. This list reflects only those references shared with the entire team directly or were invoked in our individual investigations and subsequently shared as part of our collective report. It does not cover all of the materials read by each of us individually as we developed our individual understandings.

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VI. Appendices

A. University Senate Resolutions dated Nov. 7, 2017
B. Charge letter from President, dated Feb. 12, 2018
C. List of Visiting Speakers/Expert Testimonies
D. Historic Timeline of the Mascot, 1910 to 2017
E. Evolution of SDSU Logos/Moniker Graphics
F. Survey outcomes and instruments
G. Final Codebook and Report on Qualitative Data
H. Athletics Behavioral Guidelines for the Aztec Warrior
I. 2001 Task force Report
J. CFA Assembly Resolution April 15, 2018
K. Data on Self-identifying Respondents

[i] Donal Hord also produced the beautiful sculpture, *El Cacique*, held at the San Diego History Center. https://sandiegohistory.org/exhibition/donal-hord_dyson/

Resolution to Eliminate the Mascot and Form a Task Force to Investigate the Aztec Identity

Author: Diversity, Equity, and Outreach Committee

WHEREAS, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 states that: "No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance." and;

WHEREAS, the State of California's Education Code Title 1, Division 1, Part 1, Chapter 2, Article 3 [220] states: "No person shall be subjected to discrimination on the basis of disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or any other characteristic that is contained in the definition of hate crimes set forth in Section 422.55 of the Penal Code in any program or activity conducted by an educational institution that receives, or benefits from, state financial assistance or enrolls pupils who receive state student financial aid." and;

WHEREAS, the State of California's Education Code Title 1, Division 1, Part 1, Chapter 2, Article 3.5 [221.2] states: "(a) The use of racially derogatory or discriminatory school or athletic team names, mascots, or nicknames in California public schools is antithetical to the California school mission of providing an equal education to all; (b) Certain athletic team names, mascots, and nicknames that have been used and remain in use by other teams, including school teams, in other parts of the nation are discriminatory in singling out the Native American community for the derision to which mascots or nicknames are often subjected; (c) Many individuals and organizations interested and experienced in human relations, including the United States Commission on Civil Rights, have concluded that the use of Native American images and names in school sports is a barrier to equality and understanding, and that all residents of the United States would benefit from the discontinuance of their use; (d) No individual or school has a cognizable interest in retaining a racially derogatory or discriminatory school or athletic team name, mascot, or nickname." and;

WHEREAS, Executive Order 1097, from the Office of the chancellor of the California State university system states: "The California State University (CSU) is committed to maintaining an inclusive community that values diversity and fosters tolerance and mutual respect, and further goes on to state that "The CSU strives to be free of all forms of Discrimination, including Harassment, because of a Protected Status. It is CSU policy that no Student shall be excluded from participation in, or be denied the benefits of, any CSU program or activity because of any Protected Status," with examples of Protected Status being Age, Disability, Gender, Genetic Information, Gender Identity or Expression, Nationality, Marital Status, Race or Ethnicity, Religion, Sexual Orientation, and Veteran or Military Status. and;

WHEREAS, the United States Commission on Civil Rights, by Resolution dated April 13, 2001, called for an end to the use of American Indian images and team names by schools: "Schools should not use their influence to perpetuate misrepresentations of any culture of people. Stereotypes of American Indians teach all students that the stereotyping of minority groups is acceptable, a dangerous lesson in such a diverse society"; and

WHEREAS, in 2005, the American Psychological Association called for "the immediate retirement of all American Indian mascots, symbols, images and personalities by schools, colleges, universities, athletic teams and organizations," stating that their position is based on "a growing body of social science literature that shows the harmful effects of racial stereotyping and inaccurate racial portrayals, including the particularly harmful effects of American Indian sports mascots on the social identity development and self-esteem of American Indian young people." and;

WHEREAS, Native symbols and mascots have been used, but then later acknowledged as inappropriate and retired by institutions of higher learning including the following: Dartmouth College, Eastern Michigan University, Marquette University, Seattle University, Southern Oregon University, Stanford University, Syracuse University, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, University of Oklahoma; Arkansas State University, and the University of North Dakota; and;

WHEREAS, more than 100 organizations across the nation have endorsed the discontinuation of Native American mascots, including: National Congress of American Indians, the National Indian Education Association, the Society of Indian Psychologists, the Anti-Defamation League, Commission on Human Rights, United States Civil Rights Commission, Asian Americans Advancing Justice, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), American Jewish Committee, Museum of Tolerance, National Education Association (NEA), California Teachers Association (CTA), University of California Student Association (UCSA), and;

WHEREAS, in 2005, the NCAA adopted a policy to prohibit NCAA colleges and universities from displaying hostile and abusive racial/ethnic/national origin mascots, nicknames or imagery at any of the 88 NCAA championships.

WHEREAS, the research described in a San Diego State University graduate student's thesis, entitled, Fail Montezuma!: The Last Vestiges of an Obscured Yet Stubbornly Persistent Culture of Racism at San Diego State University, provides information on the formation of SDSU's present-day institutional identity.[1] and;

WHEREAS, San Diego State University's Policy file, section 4.4 states: "The university shall cultivate a campus climate that promotes human dignity, civility, and mutual appreciation for the uniqueness of each member of our community. Because the university's educational goals are founded on the values of intellectual honesty, appreciation for diversity, and mutual respect, it is critical that our academic and co-curricular programs, scholarships, courses, workshops, lectures, and other aspects of campus life reflect diverse perspectives. Freedom from discrimination, harassment, and violence against persons or property is a basic right and is requisite for learning. Freedom of speech shall be protected. By the same token, the campus community shall denounce and confront acts of intolerance, abusive behaviors, and the beliefs and past events that have separated us as a people." and;

[1] For more information, please see Ozzie Monge's master's thesis.

WHEREAS, San Diego State University's Diversity Pledge states, calls on students, faculty and staff to pledge "To embrace the diversity of all individuals respecting such attributes as their sex, gender, race, ethnicity, age, class, citizenship, marital status, sexual orientation, nationality, socioeconomic status, religion, physical ability, mental ability and expression; To strive toward social justice for all people in order to create and sustain a safer, more productive, and inclusive campus environment; To refrain from using derogatory terms or statements that are harmful and disrespectful to others; To not contribute to stereotypes or make generalizations about individuals but rather to use my own experiences and interactions to better understand and embrace all people; To educate myself about cultures other than my own; To engage in and contribute to the diverse world around me; To actively honor this pledge within my everyday life." and;

LET IT BE RESOLVED, that San Diego State University retire the current human representation of an Aztec as the school mascot as well as retire usage of spears or weapons that connote barbaric representations of the Aztec culture.

LET IT BE RESOLVED, that San Diego State University form a task force to investigate and make recommendations regarding the appropriateness of the continued usage of the Aztec moniker including symbols, signage, logos, branding, buildings, statues (e.g., Monty), awards (e.g., Zuma) and other references to the possible misappropriation of Aztec identity. This task force shall also make recommendations regarding an education component in relation to the Aztec identity.

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THE PRESIDENT

February 12, 2018

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Aztec Identity Task Force

From: Sally Roush, President

Thank you for agreeing to be a member of this important group. It goes without saying that the issues of the Aztec Mascot and the Aztec Identity have been controversial to a lesser or greater degree over a period of many years. The controversy has recently escalated to a level that occasioned an Associated Students vote in Spring of 2017, and a University Senate resolution in Fall of 2017, which is included in the information provided to you.

A task force was relied upon in 2000 when these issues were at a similar level of controversy. The Task Force at that time produced a comprehensive and thoughtful document that we have made available to you for your reference.

I am asking for your conclusions and recommendations by the end of April 2018. This timeline is primarily a function of my commitment to the university community to make a decision prior to the end of the semester and, as importantly, prior to the arrival of the incoming president of the university. My office will provide support as you need it to help you with this task.

Your charge is to provide me conclusions and recommendations that you believe would be in the best interest of the university and its constituents, defined in a very broad way. Our faculty and staff have a daily and in many instances decades long commitment to the university. Our students spend years of their lives here, then go on to become alumni who retain an affiliation with the university, however tangential, for the rest of their lives. The university is also an integral and important part of our local community, our state, and our country, and is, possibly, an important institution in the lives of indigenous people who may feel honored or disrespected by our reference to ourselves as Aztecs.

I ask that your deliberations be honest; respectful of each other and of the opinions expressed during your deliberations; informed by scholarly work as well as by opinions as expressed through surveys, personal testimony of experts and/or interested parties, and your own beliefs and feelings. Very importantly, I ask that you carry out your deliberations with the utmost in confidentiality.

Each one of you has the opportunity to make an important contribution to the future of San Diego State University. I will also seek counsel from other constituent groups, as well as individuals, to assist me in making a final decision. Your work, however, is of the utmost importance.

Thank you again for your willingness to participate.

Visitors to Task Force Meetings

Dr. Seth Mallios – San Diego State University History Curator and Professor of Anthropology

Jim Herrick, Assistant Vice President, Special Projects, former Assistant Vice President of Alumni Engagement

Steve Schnall - San Diego State University Executive Associate Athletic Director

President Sally Roush

Dr. Marcie Bober Michel -Chair, University Senate

Dr. Beth Chung - Director; Institute for Inclusiveness and Diversity in Organizations

History of the Aztec Warrior
1910-2017

- Aztec Identity in the past, and our part in its future
    - History
        - Normalites, The Staters, The Statesmen, The Petersonites, Wampus Cat (26 toes), Dink the Burro
        - 1924 - Student sportswriters debate "Aztecs or Incas?"
        - 1925 - Student body voted and approved the Aztecs moniker
        - 1928 - Colors approved (red and black) voted by students
        - 1937 - Donal Hord statue, "Aztec"
        - 1941 - Aztec Warrior started with student Art Munzig, nicknamed 'Monty Montezuma'
        - Aztec Identify Task Force (2001)
            - Because of the Task Force (AITF) findings in May 2001, stricter guidelines were recommended regarding the moniker and Aztec Warrior.
            - University agreed to incorporate the mascot back with more oversight adhering to recommendations of AITF and attention to accurate historical detail and collaboration with various stakeholders (see Mascot Efforts section below).
            - See Appendix - Report of the Task Force on Aztec Identity to San Diego State University to San Diego State University President Stephen L. Weber Dated May 2, 2001.
            - See also sections below related to Recommendations Implemented from that Report.
        - Aztec Warrior Foundation (AWF)
            - September 2002-November 2003
            - a group of dedicated alumni, formed to keep the mascot going during the period of removal from SDSU
            - unofficially and independently from the university designed the regalia and selected the individual who would portray the Aztec Warrior
            - followed the guidelines from the 2001 AITF
            - affected not only the design from the AWF but continued to influence after folding back into University
            - AWF has had a profound influence on the Aztec Warrior process since integration back into the university
        - Aztec Warrior Board (AWB)

            - Jim Herrick created the agreement at the direction of President Steven Weber that brought the Aztec Warrior back into the university. (See Appendix for Aztec Warrior Board Agreement)
            - November 2003 - June 2012
            - legal entity and independent charitable organization started by alumni
            - agreement including the dissolution of the Aztec Warrior Foundation
            - ensuring the that university was the primary arbiter of the management of the Aztec Warrior
            - formalized the incorporation of the Aztec Warrior back into the university via referendum in the fall of 2003
            - the group was charged with "responsibility with selecting the uniform, establishing the deportment and selecting individuals to portray the warrior"; essentially incorporating the warrior back into the university
        - Athletics - June 2012—present

- Aztec Warrior Evolution
    - Aztec Warrior started in 1941 with student Art Munzig, nicknamed 'Monty Montezuma'.
    - 2001 use of the name (Monty Montezuma) was discontinued, in alignment with a recommendation from the 2001 Aztec Identity Task Force.
    - September 2002 - November 2003 unofficial Aztec Warrior active supported by alumni.
    - Referenda 2003 where current students and Alumni Association/Athletic Foundation members formerly endorsed Aztec Warrior; 75% and 88% respectively.
    - Aztec Warrior reinstated under University direction with more stringent behavior guidelines and modifications to regalia, in alignment with recommendations from the 2001 Aztec Identity Task Force.

- Mascot Recommendations Implemented
    - Selection of Aztec Warrior
        - SDSU Athletics Department oversees current selection process, orientation and provides material on behavior and Aztec History to person selected for Aztec Warrior.
        - Students who portrayed the warrior are provided scholarships to the University.

- It is appropriate to use Montezuma as a symbol of the University, and the Task Force recommended doing so that it represent Montezuma II.

- Regalia of Aztec Warrior
  - The re-incorporation by the university of the Aztec Warrior included thoughtful considerations and changes made to the Aztec Warrior regalia.
  - These changes were carefully managed by Holy Durbin, a former faculty member of SDSU with a PHD in Costume Design who executed extensive research and relied heavily on ensuring that a historically accurate portrayal of the warrior was executed.
  - The resulting modifications were extensive and deliberate in ensuring accuracy when possible.
  - Reviewed and supported by Dr. Miguel-Leon Portilla, distinguished, highly decorated, Mexican Anthropologist/Aztec cultural expert
  - Certain concessions were made regarding materials excluding not using extinct or endangered species and adjusting for comfort for the individuals who would portray the warrior in an active setting.
  - Felipe Rengel was an Aztec consultant involved on the Aztec dance group and has contributed for 17 years to the Aztec Warrior regalia.
    - SDSU Athletics still uses Felipe Rengel who is a community friend of SDSU and not a staff or faculty member.
  - Another individual who assisted with bringing back the Aztec Warrior to SDSU was Rulon Jensen, an SDSU alum who understood the opportunity to improve the Aztec Warrior to ensure a respectful presentation for all stakeholders and was instrumental in assisting with the assimilation back into the university.
  - Extensive research executed to ensure historically accurate regalia and presentation of the Aztec Warrior in alignment with 2001 Aztec Identity Task Force (AITF) recommendations
  - Received support from Aztec language and history expert Dr. Miguel Leon-Portilla, considered to be the world's utmost expert on Aztec language and culture

- Logo (Moniker) Evolution
  - Mascot and Moniker have evolved through collaborative efforts to ensure respect, honor and appreciation (behavioral guidelines).
  - SDSU logos have evolved and eliminated caricatures,
    - 'red faced' eliminated.
  - Per the 2001 AITF deliverable no representation of the logo with faces should be walked upon on campus, demonstrating respect and acknowledgement of the recommendations presented in the 2011 AITF findings.
    - Current logo is sacred to athletes, no one steps on the Aztec logo in locker rooms.
  - See Appendix for Changes in the Primary and Alternate Logos since 1990s.

- Logo Recommendations Implemented
  - The Task Force recommend that the University continue to use logos and symbols from the Aztec culture and develop new logos that accurately depict Aztec culture and history.
  - Logos developed for use by athletic teams must show pride and strength in historically accurate ways as derived from Aztec culture.
  - Logos (in at least some iterations) should be simple, clear and direct so that they don't always need interpretation.
  - The University should conduct an inventory of all current and potential uses of its logos and ensure new designs are created that are appropriate for each use.
  - Upon completion of new logos, very clear graphics standards and guidelines need to be developed as to how and where each logo is used. Very strict enforcement of these standards is critical to maintaining consistency and ensuring that all stay within appropriate guidelines.

SDSU Logo Evolution

San Diego State Aztecs Primary Logos

1961 - 1982

1983 - 1996

1997 - 2001

2002 - 2012

2013 - Pres

San Diego State Aztecs Alternate Logos

1997 - 2001

1997 - 2001

1997 - 2001

1997 - 2001

1997 - 2001

2002 - 2012

2002 - 2012

2002 - 2012

2013 - Pres

2013 - Pres

2018 AITF Final Report – Survey Section

Stakeholder Surveys

Surveys of all SDSU stakeholder groups were conducted in the first quarter of 2018. The stakeholders were Alumni, Students, Faculty & Staff (combined) and Community members. The following table summarizes each survey and the number of responses:

Stakeholders	Surveys Deployed	Surveys Completed	Number of Comments
Alumni	125,000	6,598	3,818
Faculty & Staff	8,222	1,712	617
Students	31,417	3,440	1,065
Community	35,945	1,005	628
TOTAL	**200,584**	**12,755**	**6,128**

The AITF surveyed each group with the same two questions plus an opportunity to provide freeform comments from each group:

1. Should SDSU keep the Aztec moniker (the name "Aztecs"?) [Yes or No]
2. Should SDSU keep the human representation of the Aztec Warrior mascot? [Yes or No]

Comments (up to 400 characters)

Below are details of each survey:

Alumni Survey:
SDSU Alumni created the first survey, which was based on the 2001 alumni survey to support the 2001 Task Force Initiative. The Alumni opened on February 8, 2018 and closed it on February 19, 2018. The survey link was sent by email to 125,000 alumni and each included a single-use anonymous link.

Faculty and Staff Combined Survey:
The 2018 AITF created a survey for all SDSU Faculty and Staff; the survey questions and format were approved by President Roush. The survey opened February 28, 2018, a reminder was sent on March 4, 2018 and the survey closed on March 8, 2018. The survey link was sent by email from MarCom to 8,222 Faculty (3,053 = 37.1%) and Staff (5,169 = 62.9%). The anonymous survey did not identify if the respondent was either Faculty or Staff, however, the Senate Resolution vote also did not track Faculty or Staff participation. The survey blocked multiple voting by monitoring IP addresses. While it may have been possible for Faculty or Staff to email the link to another device to vote more than one time, it was deemed unlikely that widespread "ballot stuffing" would occur. Survey results were monitored carefully and it did not appear that much, if any, ballot stuffing occurred, based on voting trends and consistency of results with other surveys.

In addition to the two questions and comments, the Faculty and Staff were asked to rate their agreement or disagreement to the two Senate Resolution from the November 7, 2017 Senate Meeting. The additional questions were:

3. "How strongly do you agree or disagree with the spirit of (not necessarily the verbiage) Resolution 1 from the University Senate? Excerpt from the University Senate minutes of meeting held 11/17/17: LET IT BE RESOLVED, that San Diego State University retire the current human representation of an Aztec as the school mascot as well as retire usage of spears or weapons that connote barbaric representation of the Aztec culture." [Strongly disagree, Disagree, Neither agree or disagree, Agree, or Strongly Agree]

4. "How strongly do you agree or disagree with the spirit of (not necessarily the verbiage) Resolution 2 from the University Senate? Excerpt from the University Senate minutes of meeting held 11/17/17: LET IT BE RESOLVED, that San Diego State University form a task force to investigate and make recommendations regarding the appropriateness of the continued usage of the Aztec moniker including symbols, signage, logos, branding, buildings, statues (e.g., Monty), awards (e.g., Zuma) and other references to the possible misappropriation of Aztec Identity. This task force shall also make recommendations regarding an education component in relation to the Aztec identity." [Strongly disagree, Disagree, Neither agree or disagree, Agree, or Strongly Agree]

Student Survey:
The 2018 AITF created a survey for all SDSU students; the survey questions and format were approved by President Roush and Associated Students President Chemize Ebiriekwe. The survey opened on February 28, 2018, a reminder was sent on March 4, 2018 and the survey closed on March 8, 2018. The survey link was sent by email from MarCom to 31,417 Students. The anonymous survey blocked multiple voting by monitoring IP addresses. While it may have been possible for Students to email the link to another device to vote more than one time, it was deemed unlikely that widespread "ballot stuffing" would occur. Survey results were monitored carefully and it did not appear that much, if any, ballot stuffing occurred, based on voting trends and consistency of results with other surveys.

In addition to the two questions and comments, the student survey included two additional questions, which were:

3. "Do you as a student believe further education related to the Aztecs would be beneficial?"

4. "Have you taken any measure of attaining cultural competency pertaining to Aztec and/or Indigenous People?"

Community Survey:
The 2018 AITF created a survey for all SDSU Community members within a 10-mile radius of SDSU; the survey questions and format were approved by President Roush and was administered by a 3rd-party research firm, Luth Research. The survey opened on March 12, 2018, and the survey closed on March 16, 2018. The survey link was sent by email from Luth to 35,945 Community members. The anonymous survey blocked multiple voting by monitoring IP addresses.

In addition to the two questions and comments, the Community members were asked additional questions:

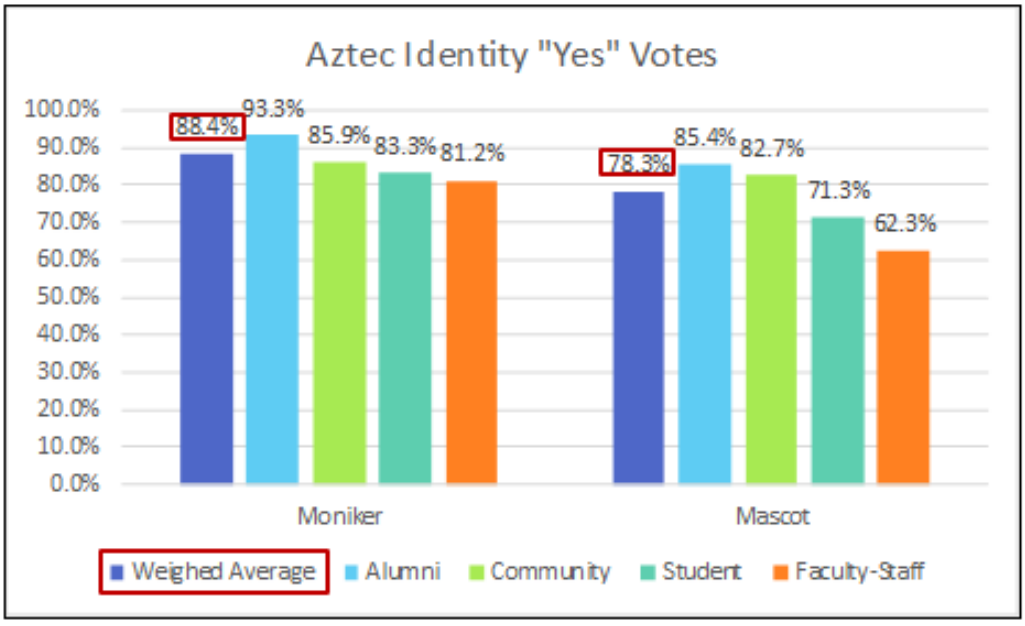
- Are you an SDSU Faculty, Staff, Student or Alumni of SDSU who has already taken a survey pertaining to this topic? [No = Continue, Yes = terminate survey]
- Zip code, gender, age, salary, education, etc. [to ensure a diverse population]

Survey Results

The survey results yielded quantitative results (the two survey questions) and qualitative results (the comments) for the four surveys. All quantitative results were analyzed by the AITF. The qualitative results for all four surveys were analyzed by a team of four SDSU PhD students from the College of Education. Even though the Alumni and Community surveys were administered by others, the AITF took on the responsibility to analyze the qualitative results to expedite the outcomes (for the Alumni survey) and to save costs (for the Community survey).

Quantitative Survey Results

The results of the Moniker and Mascot questions are shown below for each stakeholder group. Weighted averages of all results were calculated and are included – note that the weighted averages are heavily influenced by the Alumni results as the large number of Alumni responses represent 52% of the total number of survey responses.

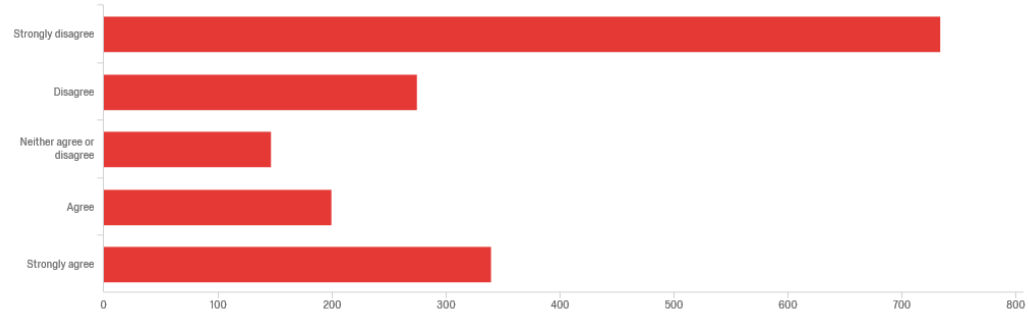


Faculty and Staff Quantitative Results:

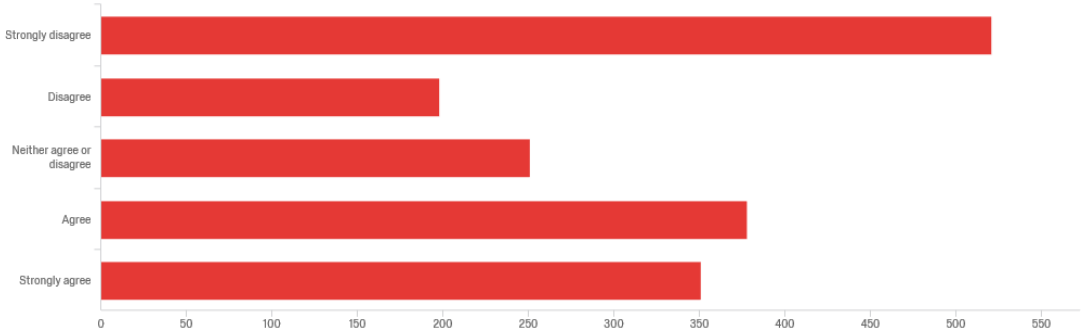
The Faculty and Staff results for the Senate Resolutions indicated a broad range of disapproval and approval for each. When using weighted averages, the results indicate neither agreement nor disagreement with the Resolutions.

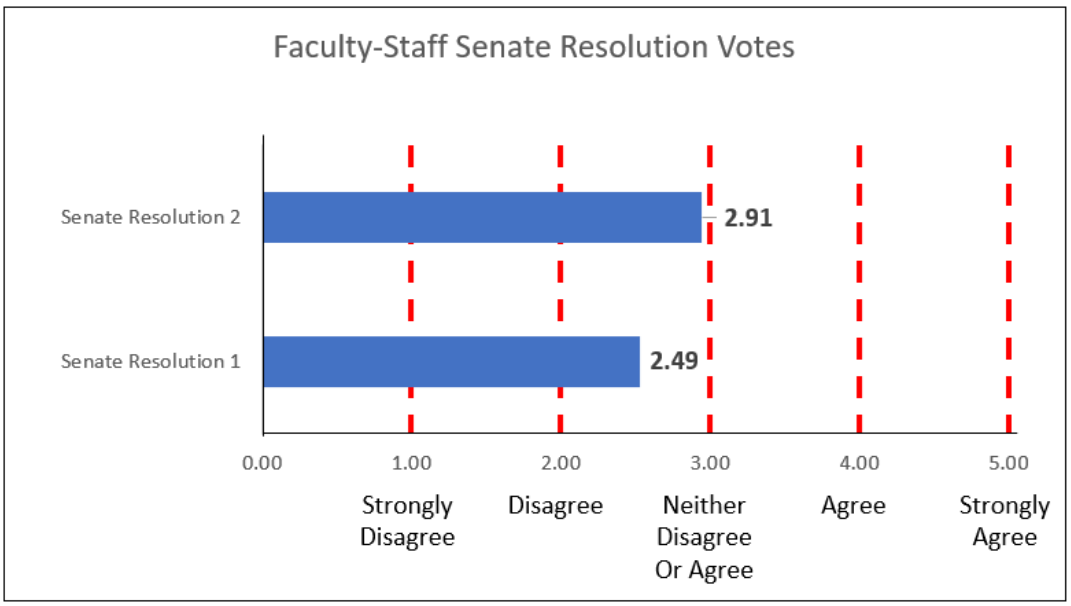
2018 AITF Final Report – Survey Section

Senate Resolution #1:



Senate Resolution #2:

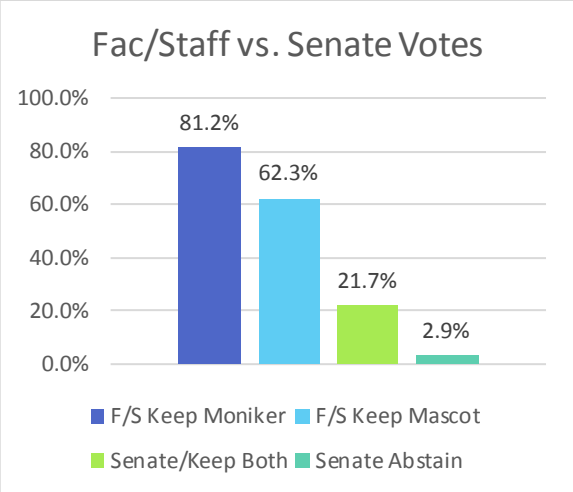




Faculty and Staff Quantitative versus Senate Vote Results:

When comparing the Faculty and Staff results with the Senate votes, there are opposite outcomes. Some speculation on why this is the case:

- Senate vote combined both moniker and mascot issues with inflammatory language ("spears/weapons…barbaric")
- Senate deferred responsibility and proposed "…a task force to investigate and make recommendations…"
- Senate represents only 0.84% of the Faculty/Staff population (n=63 = 0.84%)
- Fac/Staff surveys were individual, Senate session had presentations, discussions



AITF Response to Senate Resolutions:

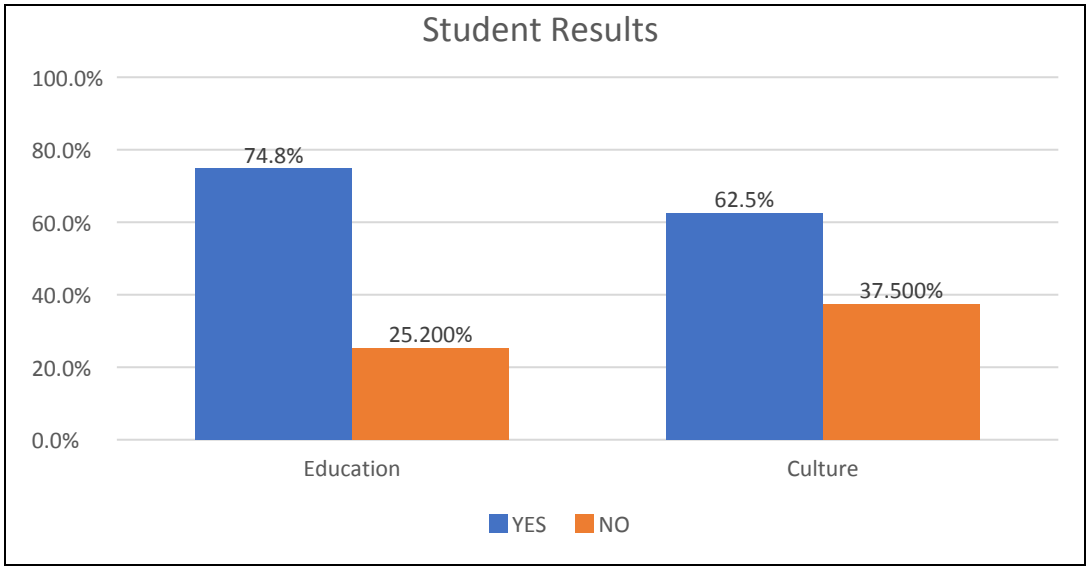
The AITF disagrees with certain words used within the Senate resolutions

- We do not support the uninformed opinion, and implications thereof, that Aztec tools and weapons are somehow "barbaric" in nature
- Sources educated on the Aztec culture, recognize the spear and other tools used by the Aztecs, to be utilitarian and a source of pride in the adaptability and ingenuity of their empire

As such, we oppose the statement in the SDSU Senate resolutions to eliminate imagery and/or use of the spear and other historically accurate Aztec tools.

Student Quantitative Results:

The Student survey indicated that student-specific questions about Education and Culture support their interest in further education and that generally, students have pursued attaining cultural competency for Aztec and/or Indigenous People.



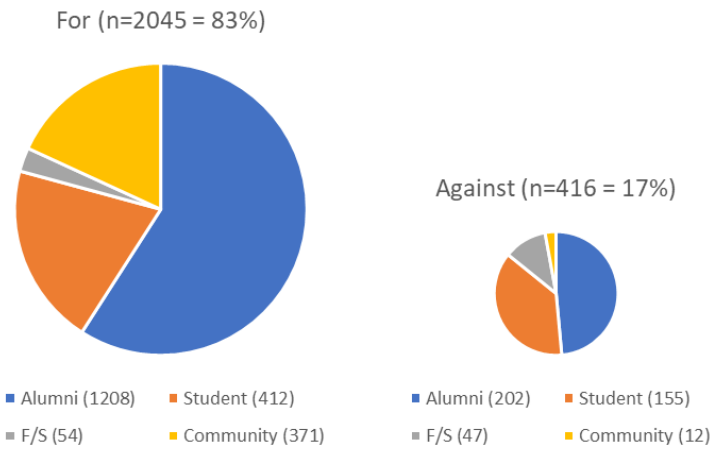
Qualitative Survey Results

As previously mentioned, there were a total of 6128 freeform comments of 400-characters or less (representing 48% of all surveys completed). As the AITF administered the Student and Faculty/Staff surveys, it was planned that we would analyze the comments for those stakeholder groups. However, the AITF also analyzed the Alumni survey comments (to expedite the results) and the Community survey comments (to save costs). A team of four SDSU PhD students from the College of Education were hired to analyze the qualitative comments. The PhD team utilized "Dedoose" research software to analyzed the themes of the comments from each stakeholder group. The comments represent the actual "Voices" of SDSU Stakeholders.

There were some general findings across all stakeholder groups:

- There was ambiguity and confusion differentiating the moniker, the name Aztec and the warrior mascot across the data
- Majority of comments were positive and supportive of the moniker and mascot
- Majority of those who self-identify as Native decent and/or Mexican heritage found the Aztec identity as a source of preserving the culture

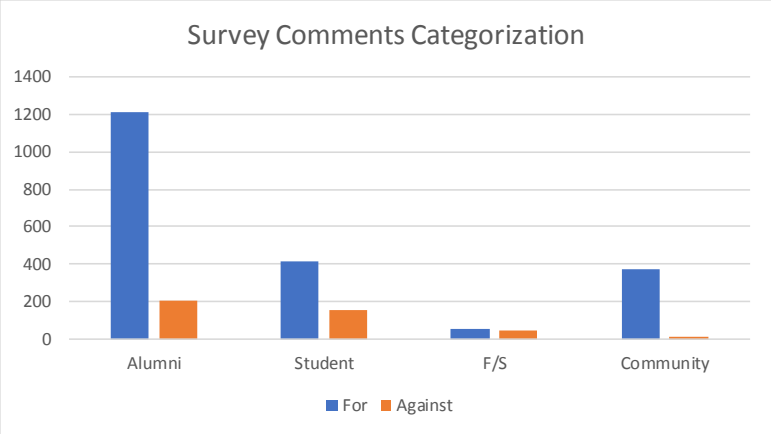
See chart below showing the breakdown of "for" (83%) and "against" (17%) comments by stakeholder group:



The PhD Team categorized the dominant themes of the comments. The tables below list those themes plus their descriptions:

"For" Themes	Description
Appropriate / respectful	View current representation as appropriate and/or respectful
Family	Cite moniker/mascot as instilling a sense of connection to family
Honoring	View use of moniker/mascot as honoring Aztec culture
Identity	Cite moniker/mascot as part of school identity
Not offensive	Not offended by use or current representaion
Pride	Cite moniker/mascot as instilling a sense of pride in school
Tradition / History	View moniker/mascot as part of school traditions and/or history

"Against" Themes	Description
Appropriation	View use of Aztec/indigenous moniker/mascot as cultural appropriation
Culturally insensitive	View moniker/mascot as insensitive to the cultural group it represents
Dislikes Aztecs	General dislike for the Aztec moniker and/or mascot
Forward thing	Argues for forward thinking and alignment with more inclusive policies
No human representation	View human representation as problematic
Offensive	View moniker/mascot as offensive
Racist	Points directly to connections to system issues of racism



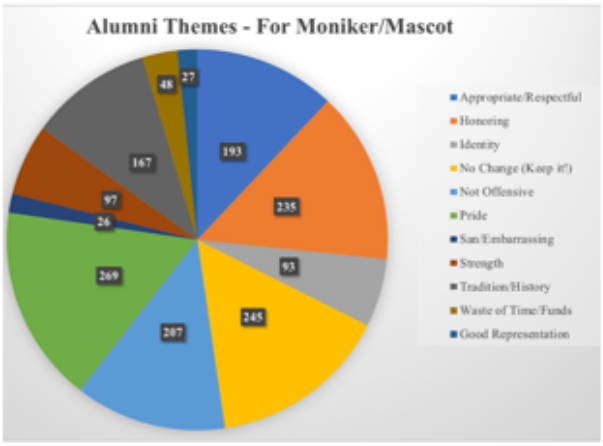
Alumni Qualitative Results:

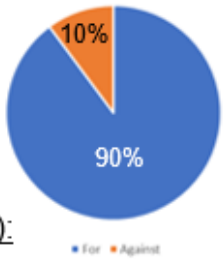
This population had the largest data. Majority of the comments were in reference to SDSU sporting events. Data analysis found the following to be salient across the comments:

- The Aztec is the main identity for alumni
- More than majority of alumni did not find the moniker/mascot to be offensive
    - Alumni did not find the moniker/mascot to be examples of appropriation. They found it to be expressing appreciation of the Aztec culture
- Majority of alumni expressed withholding funds AND support if SDSU changes the moniker/mascot ("no Monty, no money")
- Alumni urged the institution to consider SDSU's branding and reputation that has been developed over the years. Removing or changing of the moniker/mascot would become be detrimental to the culture and name of the university

A summary of the Alumni Qualitative Results is shown below (extracted from the AITF Final Report-out presentation):

Qualitative Results: Alumni



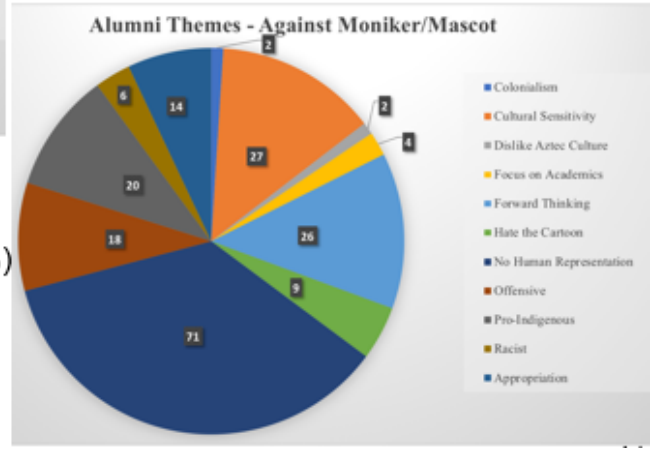


Top "For" Themes (90%):

- Pride (17%)
- No change/keep it (15%)
- Honoring (15%)
- Not offensive (13%)

Top "Against" Themes (10%):

- No Human Representative (36%)
- Cultural Sensitivity (14%)
- Forward Thinking (13%)
- Pro-Indigenous (10%)



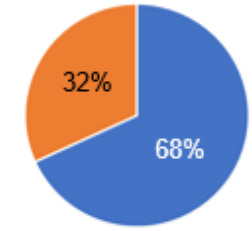
Faculty & Staff Qualitative Results:

Faculty and staff were more explicit in their comments regarding the issue. The following points highlight some of the initial findings:

- Many faculty and staff supported the name, but did not like the human representation
- Some faculty and staff argued that SDSU should be a leader and change the mascot

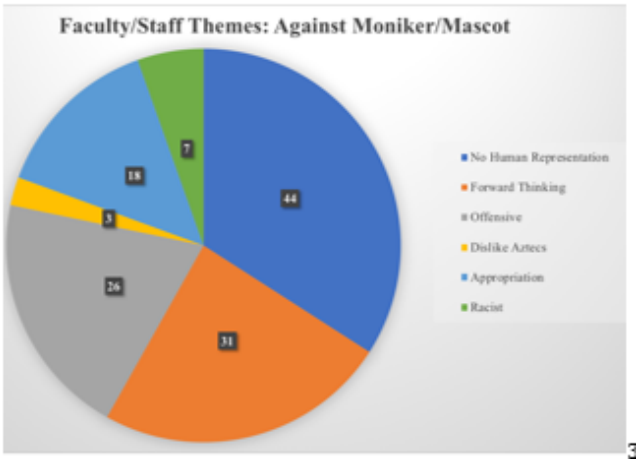
A summary of the Faculty/Staff Qualitative Results is shown below (extracted from the AITF Final Report-out presentation):

Qualitative Results: Faculty/Staff



Top "For" Themes (68%):

- Appropriate/Respectful (25%)
- Pride (24%)
- Honoring (22%)
- Identity (16%)



Top "Against" Themes (32%):

- No Human Representation (34%)
- Forward Thinking (24%)
- Offensive (20%)
- Appropriation (14%)

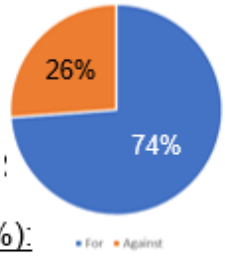
Student Qualitative Results:

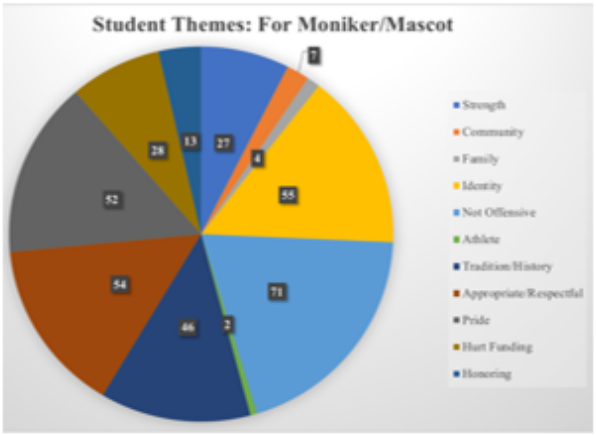
The student feedback had the most robust responses. The comments varied between supporting/removing the moniker/mascot:

- Majority did not find the moniker and mascot to be offensive and found it to be honoring the culture
- Majority recommend having more representation and courses to educate students about the history and culture of Aztec
- Those offended expressed that SDSU should change the moniker/mascot because it was racist and appropriating
- Other students noted that changing the identity of SDSU will hurt future funding and support from current students and alumni and would hurt the identity and culture for students
- A few expressed that the human representation is offensive and should be reconsidered to be presented in other forms
- If SDSU decides to keep the mascot, the person representing the Aztec should be of Aztec or Hispanic descent

A summary of the Student Qualitative Results is shown below (extracted from the AITF Final Report-out presentation):

Qualitative Results: Student



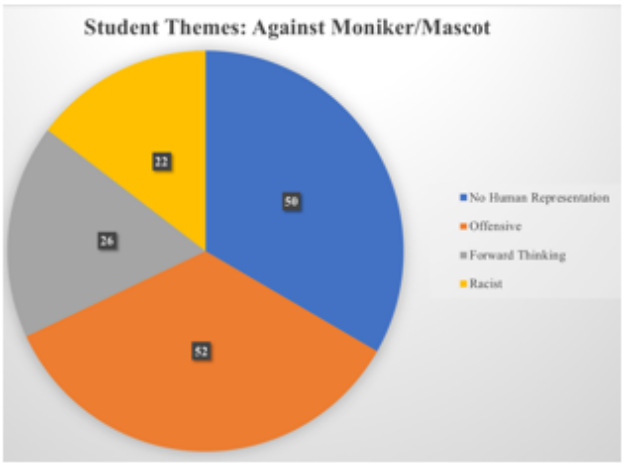


Top "For" Themes (74%):

- Not offensive (20%)
- Identity (15%)
- Appropriate/Respectful (15%)
- Pride (14%)

Top "Against" Themes (26%):

- Offensive (35%)
- No Human Representation (33%)
- Forward Thinking (17%)
- Racist (15%)



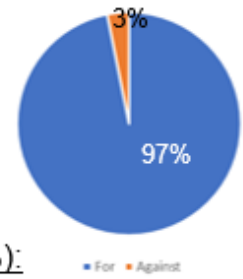
Community Qualitative Results:

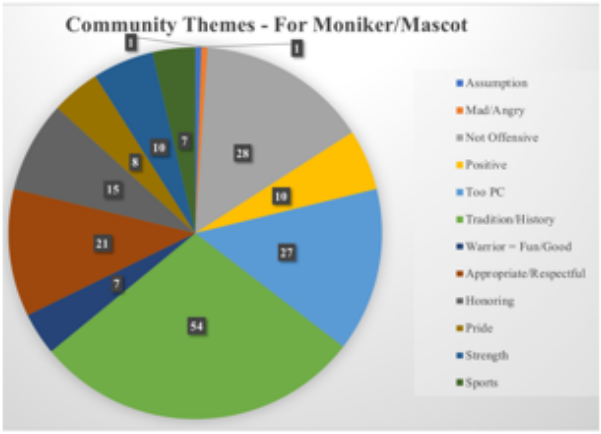
This population had the least data. Most of the data was really short and not relevant in either supporting or rejecting the use of the current moniker/mascot. Some findings of the data suggested the following from the community:

- The focus of the survey was a waste of time
- Findings indicated that most of the community members were in favor keeping the mascot
- Some suggested changing the name and/or the human representation mascot with an animal figure

A summary of the Community Qualitative Results is shown below (extracted from the AITF Final Report-out presentation):

Qualitative Results: Community



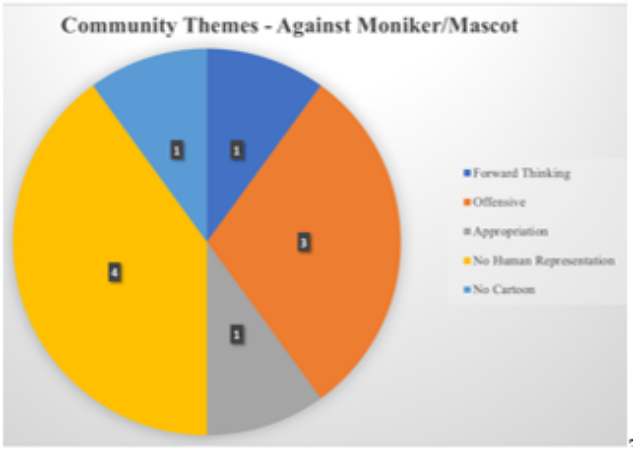


Top "For" Themes (97%):

- Tradition/History (29%)
- Not offensive (15%)
- Too Politically Correct (14%)
- Appropriate/Respectful (11%)

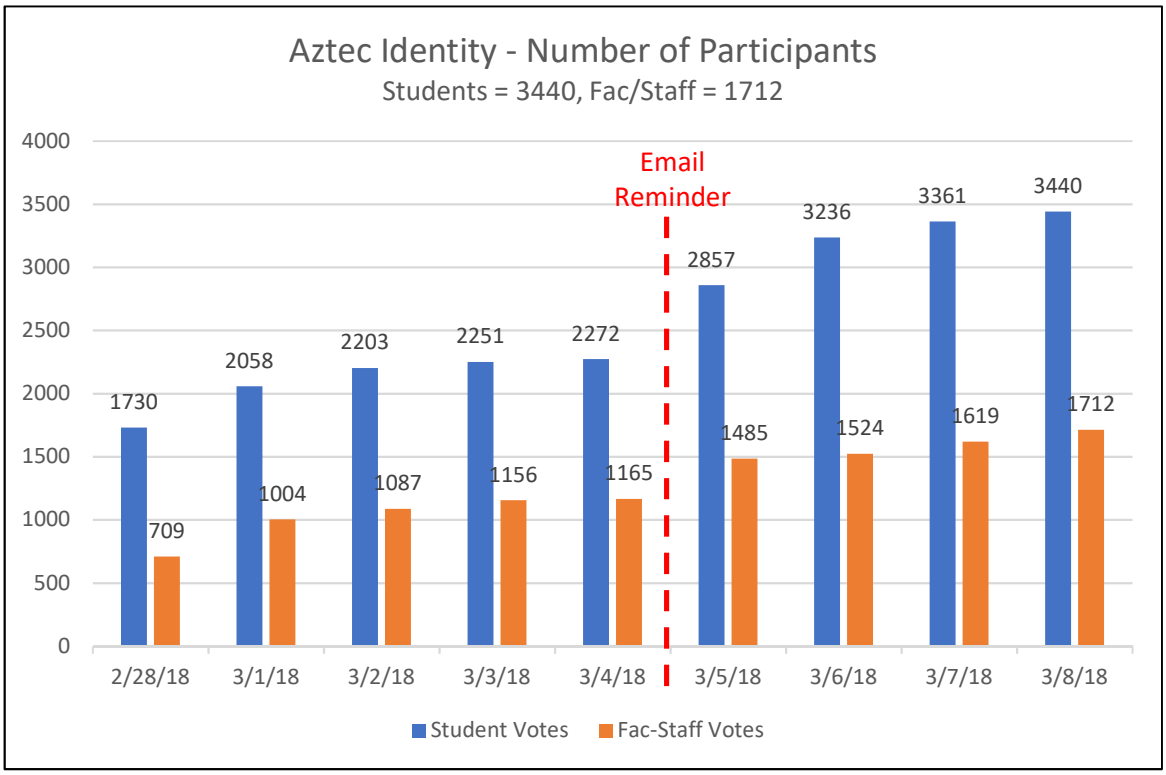
Top "Against" Themes (3%):

- No Human Representation (40%)
- Offensive (30%)
- Forward Thinking (10%)
- Appropriation (10%)



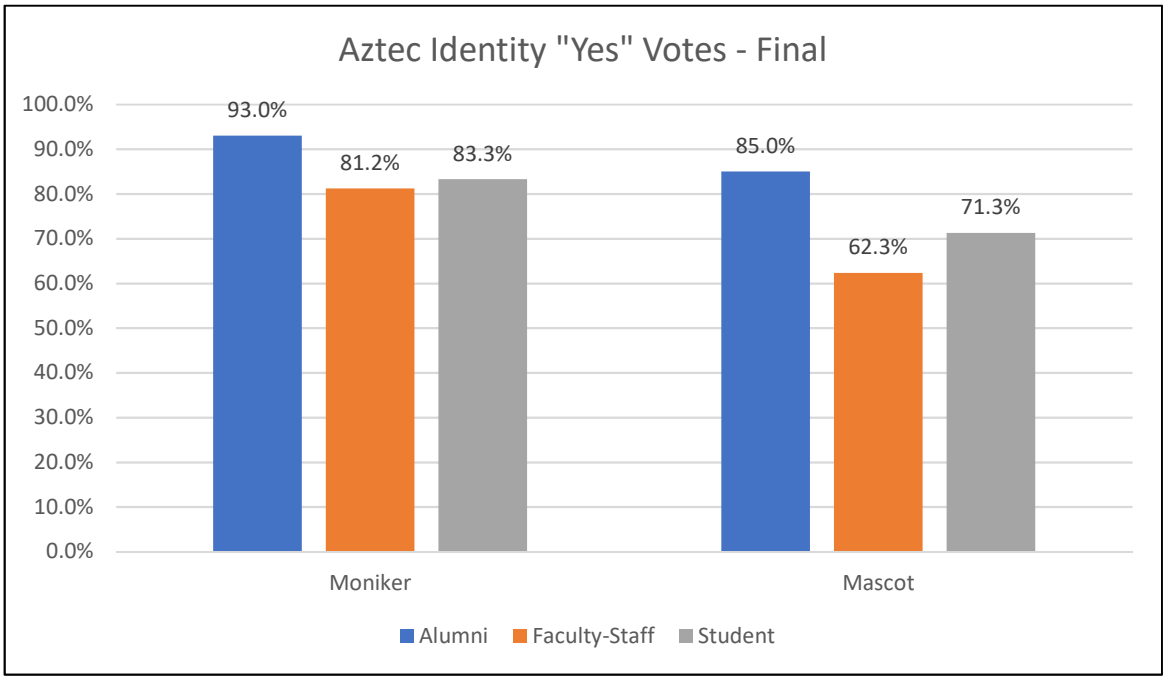
Copies of the surveys and Qualitative Reports are included in Appendix ___.

Aztec Identity Survey – Final Results 3/13/18

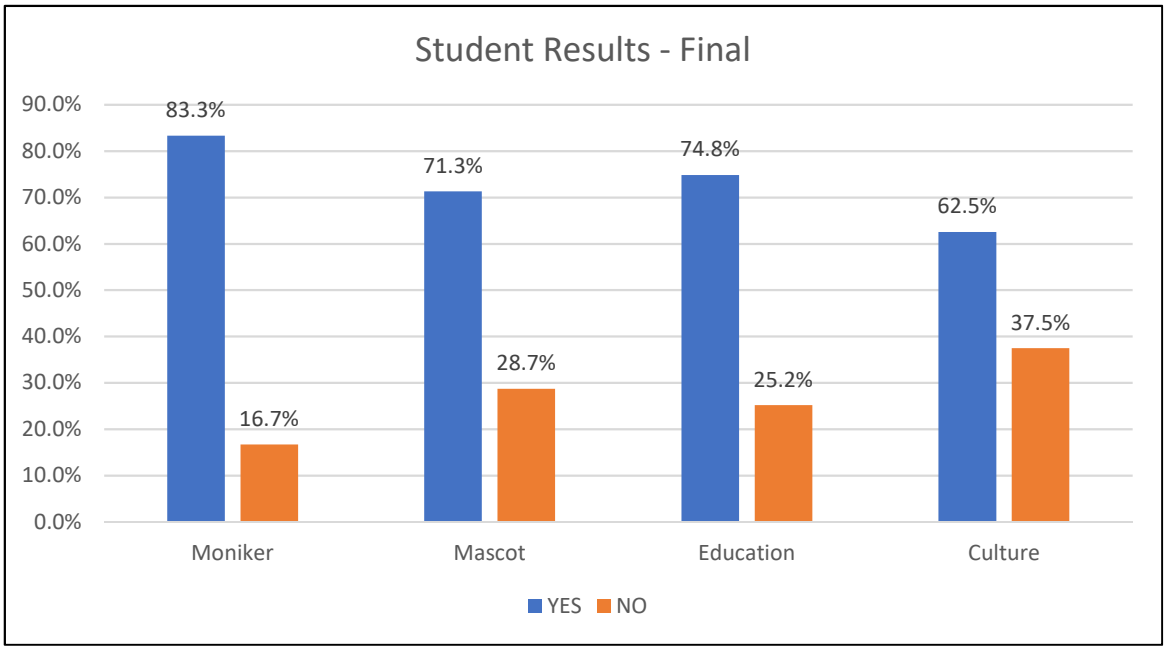


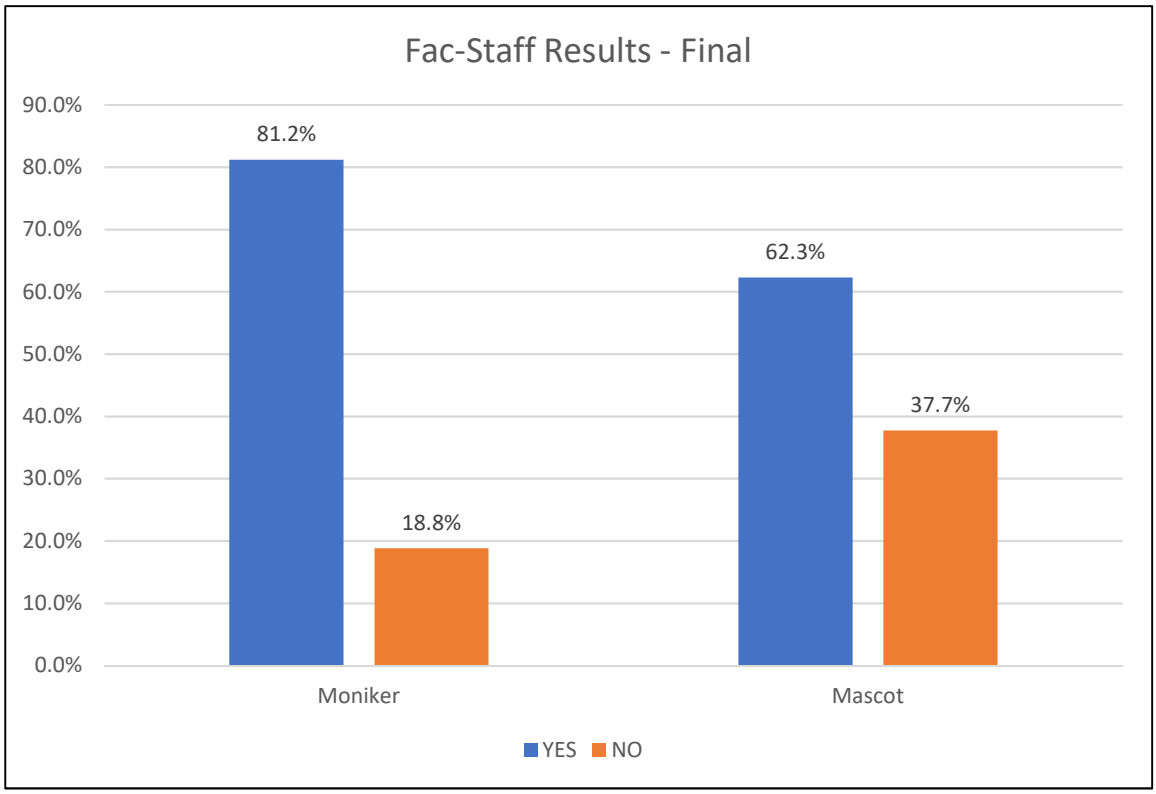
Comments to analyze:

- Students: 1065 comments (31%)
- Fac-Staff: 617 comments (36%)

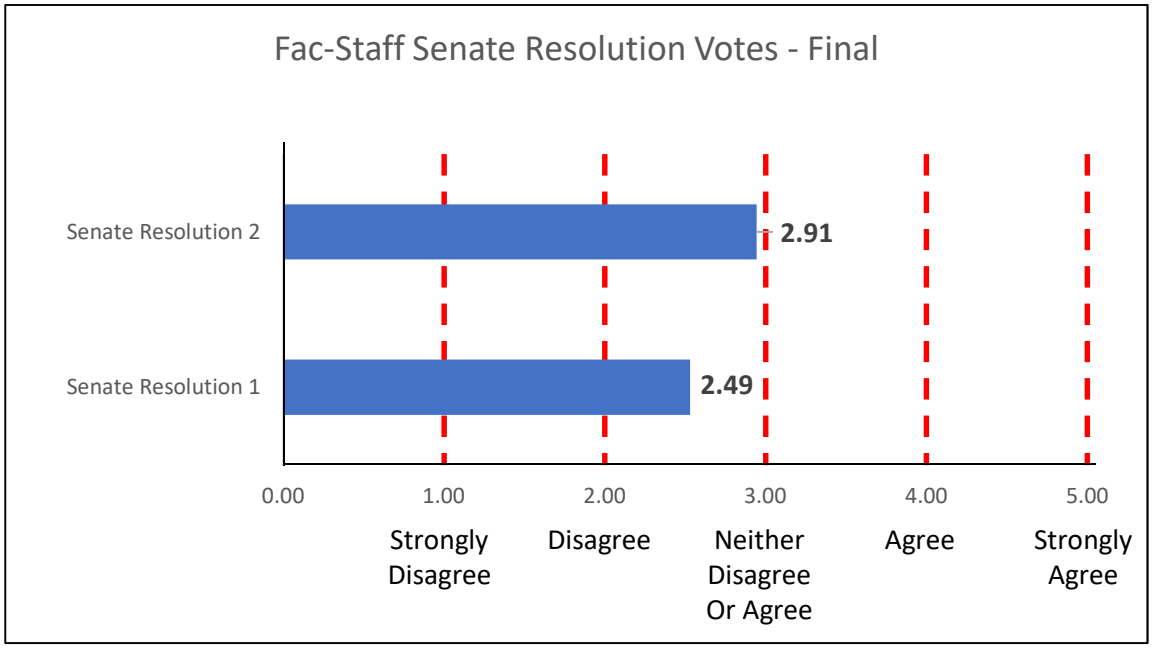


Aztec Identity Survey – Final Results 3/13/18

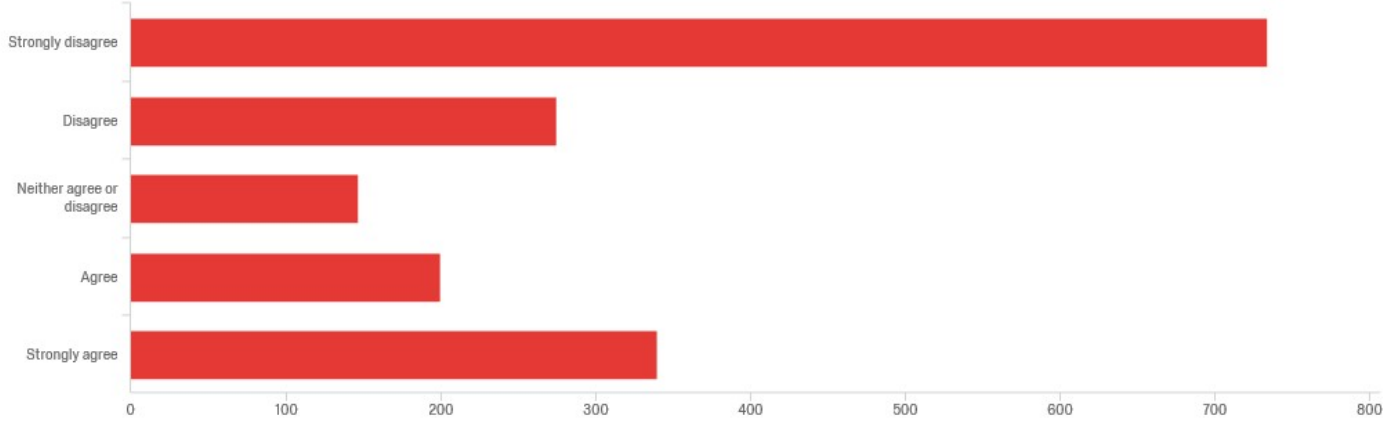




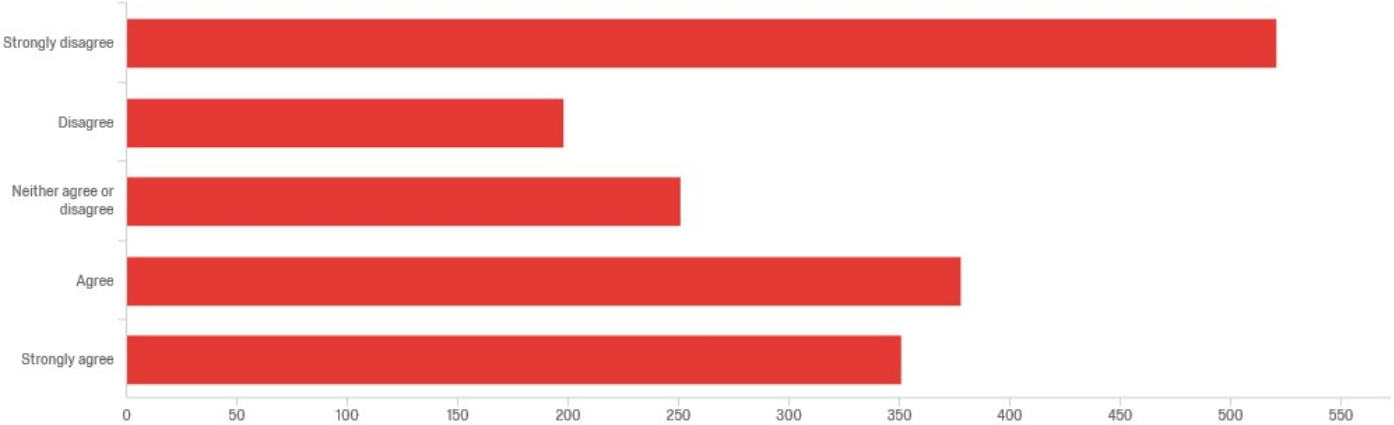
Aztec Identity Survey – Final Results 3/13/18



Senate Resolution #1 – Details:



Senate Resolution #2 – Details:



SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Student Survey

Default Question Block

Dear Students,

As you may know, President Roush has initiated a task force to explore the future of the Aztec moniker. President Roush has asked us to "provide an opportunity for dialogue . . . among stakeholders in the SDSU community and . . . to provide information on how to represent university traditions, build communal spirt and honor specific facets of our campus culture".[1]

We are asking for your insight into this issue through a very short survey that mirrors the questions that were asked of SDSU alumni, faculty and staff. The survey also includes an opportunity for comments.

[1] Special Task Force to Explore Aztec Identity. SDSU NewsCenter January 17, 2018. http://newscenter.sdsu.edu/sdsu_newscenter/news_story.aspx?sid=7707</

Please answer Yes/No to the following four questions that are also being asked of SDSU alumni, faculty and staff:

1. Should SDSU keep the Aztec moniker (the name Aztecs)?

- ○ Yes
- ○ No

2. Should SDSU keep the human representation of the Aztec Warrior?

- ○ Yes
- ○ No

3. Do you as a student, believe further education related to the Aztecs would be beneficial?

- ○ Yes
- ○ No

4. Have you taken any measure of attaining cultural competency or education pertaining to Aztec and/or Indigenous People?

- ○ Yes
- ○ No

Comment Box (up to 400 characters):

Thank you for your valuable input.

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Faculty-Staff Survey

Default Question Block

Dear Faculty and Staff,

As you may know, President Roush has initiated a task force to explore the future of the Aztec moniker. President Roush has asked us to "provide an opportunity for dialogue . . . among stakeholders in the SDSU community and . . . to provide information on how to represent university traditions, build communal spirt and honor specific facets of our campus culture".[1]

We are asking for your insight into this issue through a very short survey that reviews the Senate Resolution and that mirrors the questions that were asked of SDSU alumni and current SDSU students. The survey also includes an opportunity for comments.

[1] Special Task Force to Explore Aztec Identity. SDSU NewsCenter January 17, 2018. http://newscenter.sdsu.edu/sdsu_newscenter/news_story.aspx?sid=7707</

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the spirit of (not necessarily the verbiage) Resolution 1 from the University Senate?

Excerpt from the University Senate minutes of meeting held 11/7/17:

LET IT BE RESOLVED, that San Diego State University retire the current human representation of an Aztec as the school mascot as well as retire usage of spears or weapons that connote barbaric representation of the Aztec culture.

- ○ Strongly disagree
- ○ Disagree
- ○ Neither agree or disagree
- ○ Agree
- ○ Strongly agree

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the spirit of (not necessarily the verbiage) Resolution 2 from the University Senate?

Excerpt from the University Senate minutes of meeting held 11/7/17:

LET IT BE RESOLVED, that San Diego State University form a task force to investigate and make recommendations regarding the appropriateness of the continued usage of the Aztec moniker including symbols, signage, logos, branding, buildings, statues (e.g., Monty), awards (e.g. Zuma) and other references to the possible misappropriation of Aztec identity. This task force shall also make recommendations regarding an education component in relation to the Aztec identity.

- ○ Strongly disagree
- ○ Disagree
- ○ Neither agree or disagree
- ○ Agree
- ○ Strongly agree

Faculty-Staff Survey Continued

Please answer Yes/No to the following two questions that are also being asked of SDSU alumni and current SDSU students:

1. Should SDSU keep the Aztec moniker (the name Aztecs)?

- ○ Yes
- ○ No

2. Should SDSU keep the human representation of the Aztec Warrior?

- ○ Yes
- ○ No

Comment Box (up to 400 characters):

Thank you for your valuable input.

SDSU Alumni

2018 SDSU Alumni Survey Results

The SDSU Alumni survey was sent out to degree holding alumni on February 8 and closed on February 19. The survey methods were similar to the SDSU Alumni survey done for the 2001 task force. The survey that was delivered to alumni can be seen below.

The results were as follows:

6,206 alumni voted

- Of those voters: 5,791 said YES to keep the Aztec moniker (name) (93%), 415 said NO to keep Aztec moniker (name) (7%).
- Of those voters: 5,302 said YES to keep the Aztec Warrior (85%), 901 NO to keeping the Aztec Warrior. (15%).

To participate in the survey please use your Alumni ID; oooooooooo.

SDSU Alumni

Aztec Identity and Aztec Warrior Survey

On November 7, 2017, the University Senate approved the following two-part resolution, which was forwarded to President Roush for consideration:

1. LET IT BE RESOLVED that San Diego State University retire the current human representation of an Aztec as the school mascot as well as retire the usage of spears or weapons that connote barbaric representations of the Aztec Culture.

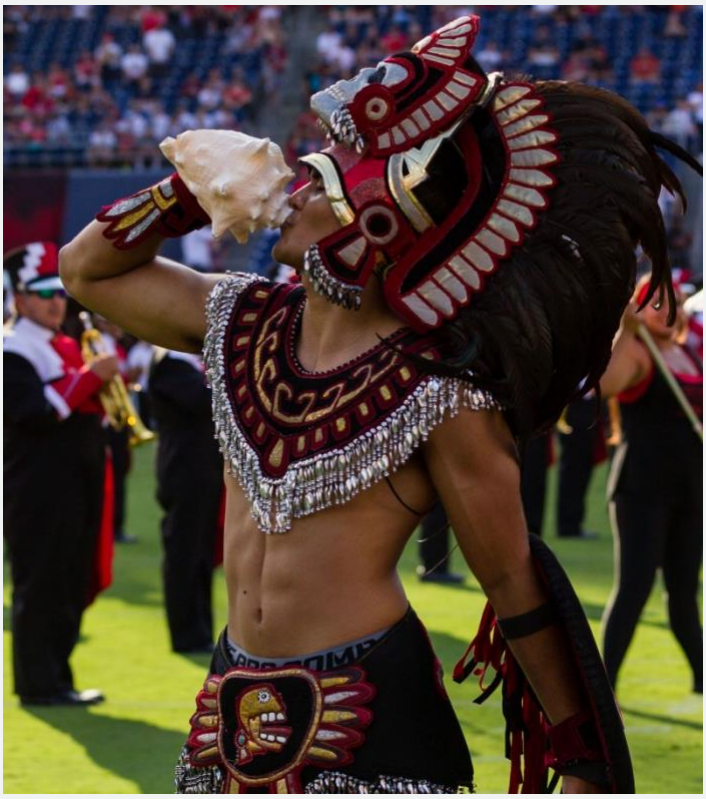
2. LET IT BE RESOLVED that San Diego State University form a task force to investigate and make recommendations regarding the appropriateness of the continued usage of the Aztec moniker including symbols, signage, logos, branding, statues (e.g., The Aztec - aka "Monty"), awards (e.g. Zuma) and other references to the possible misappropriation of the Aztec Identity. This task force shall also make recommendations regarding an education component in relation to the Aztec identity.

SDSU Alumni

Based on these resolution items, SDSU President Sally Roush will convene a task force to evaluate and recommend a conclusion of these issues. The 17-member task force will be comprised of alumni, faculty, students and presidential appointees.

SDSU Alumni will serve as the conduit ensuring that alumni voices are heard. As part of the task force's evaluation process, we ask all SDSU alumni to complete this brief survey to provide quantifiable feedback for discussion of the Aztec Identity and Aztec Warrior.

Please click on the button below to participate in the survey. You may provide additional feedback in the comments section. Results of the survey will be collated and shared with the task force to assist in its deliberations and recommendations. The deadline for the special task force to provide information and recommendations is April 30. President Roush intends to make a final decision about the Aztec identity and mascot no later than May 31.



TAKE SURVEY

Survey closes February 19.

"barbaric" is smb's opinion: the same way any weapon/coat of arms can be described as "barbaric" cannons and swords are not less s barbaric. All weapons are barbaric!
"one of the most beautiful sights in the world is to see them in their battle array. Among them are extraordinary brave men with absolute determination.During combat they sing and dance and sometimes give the wildest shouts and whistles imaginable, especially when they know they have the advantage. Anyone facing them can be terrified by their screams and their ferocity." KEEP THE AZTECS!
#2 is actually "maybe". The human representation, if done in a tasteful manner, not as a cartoonish "mascot", can support the spirit of the students and alumni.
1: Aztecs had engineers, astronomers, poets and scribes, they had businessmen and women, they had what we at SDSU produce: engineers, Scientists, Businessmen/women, pets, musicians, and overall great members of society. 2: It would take many resources that the university DOES NOT HAVE to re-brand and reinvent what is
A culture is not a mascot. Thank you for finally moving to change this!
a delicate issue with no solution that will please everyone
A extremely tiny but vocal minority are raising an issue that was reviewed and decided several years ago. Our use of the Aztec identity is respectful and is something that our alumni are proud of. It would be a big mistake to
A people should not be a mascot. Pick an animal or a plant.
Adopt an animal important to the Aztec culture, like the Jaguar. You could keep aspects of the SDSU "Aztec" culture, like the buildings names, etc. You could even stylize the Jaguar so it looked "Aztec." We need to just move on from our Generic Aztec Warrior mascot.
Agree with retiring the human representation but keep the usage of spears or weapons. I also agree with creating a class on Aztec identity.
All things considered, being the Aztecs honors, not degrades, the Aztec culture/people.
Although I agree that the university should move away from a human representation of the Aztec mascot because of cultural misappropriation, I do not agree that the use of spears or weapons should be discontinued specifically for SDSU Athletics. The Aztecs were a warrior culture up to the time of the Spanish conquest and a "warrior" identity is appropriate for the competitive nature of athletics
Although I personally Donâ€™t have any objection, we need to be sensitive to all of the ethnicities. Perhaps a more suitable representation can be considered .
Although in general I support the dissolution of monikers such as Redskins or Indians, I hope that SDSU keeps the Aztec moniker. 1st, Aztec is not a derogatory term. 2nd, the name on campus is associated with community and not just sports/warriors: We are Aztecs and Aztec for Life are 2 examples of associating Aztec with community.
Alums and major donors like the name, so this survey, the committee and the entire discussion seems like a waste of everyone's time.
Among 100s of important social justice issues, this one should not even make the list.
An anthro professor who I respect a lot said that ACTUAL Aztecs may in fact feel more complimented than insulted by our use of the Aztec name. That said, it has nothing to do with San Diego. Chicanos may feel otherwise. I'm just a white guy who doesn't want to get blamed!
Anyone that worked for SDSU for 20+ years is an Aztec forever.
As a Chicano, I feel pride associated with the Aztec moniker. But as an ally for native americans, I don't feel the human representation is important to SDSU's identity and has the potential to be offensive.
As a faculty member and two time alum I think that the aztec moniker and human representation are this school's legacy. They are not demoralizing - they are intended to pay respect to the native americans that have deep roots in this county. It would be a shame to remove the name or the human representation - they are not intended as anything but positive representations.
As a Hispanic staff member and alumni, keep the Aztec Warrior and maintain a proud tradition!
As a Mexican I find the use of an Aztec to be of much pride and strength. I do not find it offensive. I believe removing the Aztec from SDSU would be another way to oppress the Mexican culture and be another hard hit to

As a Mexican-American, I think the Aztec name and appearance is not being misappropriated. I am proud the Aztecs and Aztec culture is recognized. It is not represented as barbaric. Those who oppose the Aztec representation really need to research the ancient Aztec tribes. The Aztecs were not the same as the native american tribes here in the United States and should not be compared to them.
As a SDSU grad (1993), I would rather we adopt the duck-billed platypus as a mascot than any Native American
As a traditional indigenous Aztec dancer, I find the human representation of the Aztec offensive as it reflects cultural misappropriation. We make our regalia with our own hands and it has a specific traditional significance. I am severely offended. We are also receiving negative comments nationwide; we are one of the few schools left with an indigenous mascot. Thank you
As a woman, I love the buff-looking Aztec Warrior running up and down the stands at games. The Azteca dance troupes dress in a similar fashion and no one complains. I don't see it as disrespectful. Have the Aztecs in Mexico
As always, if the people that identify with an ethnicity closest to Aztec do not want to be a mascot - then there is
As an Aztec descendant, neither the moniker or human representation are demeaning or barbaric to me or my family. I feel as though the name should remain with the university as it is part of long history in San Diego.
As an SDSU alum an employee, the Aztec Warrior is a strong symbol of SDSU. Leave it alone!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
As graduate (BS & MS) of San Diego State University, now a faculty member, and a 1st generation Mexican-American, I am PROUD that San Diego State has the Aztecs as our symbol. The Aztecs symbol represents pride in
As I said in my alumni response, I don't feel that I, as a person not of Aztec heritage, can say whether or not we "should" keep the Aztec moniker or warrior representation.
As it stands now, SDSU is the definition of hypocrisy. The mission statement asserts we are â€œcommitted to furthering social justiceâ€ and â€œshall cultivate a campus climate that promotes human dignity.â€ Having a mascot that is a barbaric caricature of a diverse society of people is dehumanizing and far from achieving either
As long as the university treats the name and warrior with respect, yes, it should stay. Mexicans are proud of the aztec heritage and having it here keeps it alive. The halls and buldings with Aztecs names are amazing reminders so long as they are authentic and respectful
As much as I appreciate being asked for input, this issue is much more complicated than taking a yes/no vote. With appropriate education, people may view the issues in their complexities and likely change their minds. Please don't consider this the last word. Thank you.
As part of the Mexican culture, I believe it is an honor when there is tribute to and an attempt to preserve the Aztec culture. Having an Aztec Warrior as a University representation prompts our University community to engage in learning more about this heritage, and the University is in the right path to illicit conversations that
At SDSU, we value Aztec tradition, and shall remain Aztecs for life as promised to our student body.
Aztec civilication it's period from 1300 to 1521!!! How somebody can be offended and mad about for something that happends 5 centuries ago?
Aztec civilization is an ancient culture and not represented among modern human societies. The SDSU representation of the Aztec culture is very tasteful in its logos and human representation. Stricter rules may be enforced on acceptable mascot behavior at games, if this is an area causing offense. The iconic USC Trojan moniker is in the same class and its legitimacy can be similarly argued..
Aztec community is tied to the Aztec image and regional associations that should be maintained by the
Aztec for Life!
AZTEC for life. How about those USC Trojans. Do they represent the "Trojan people" and is there a movement at USC to do away with the Tommy Trojan.
Aztec iconography is rich in its representation but does not have to be a physical representation replete with
Aztec is a key part of SDSU's story. We should focus more on educating our internal and external partners about why this is a powerful and important part of the University's history and our identity today.
Aztec is a warrior. I like the spirit of fighting for what you want. The imagery is not offensive. Aztec s represent a people who built advanced civilization and that what I would like to think SDSU is being through the programs

Aztec is an actual name of a people, not a derogatory label that people made up. I don't see an issue with using the name "Aztecs" or the Aztec Warrior. If a spear is culturally accurate, I don't see a problem with SDSU
Aztec is San Diego State everyone identifies with that and recognizes that it means SDSU. What other representative would you present that signifies with San Diego?
Aztec Proud!!!
Aztec proud. Don't want to become banana slug
Aztec warrior seems to celebrate the Aztec culture, war symbols connote bravery & a nod to its history. The warrior offers a postive spirit,cheering on the school, not barbarism. All war is barbaric, do we call vets barbarians or camouflage barbaric? The Aztec warrior conducts himself with dignity & school pride, connecting the proud history of the Aztecs w/today's pride in school spirit.
Aztec were inovators
Aztecs and Monty ARE SDSU. Many alumni would remove funding if these two things are changed or removed.
Aztecs and the Aztec Warrior is tradition and a sense of pride. There are more people in favor of it than the few who oppose it.
Aztecs are an ancient civilization and therefore I do not think there is any "cultural appropriation" - Trojans, Pirate, Vikings etc. have not raised this issue and it is an incredible waste of time and resources looking into this
Aztecs for Life!
Aztecs for Life!
Aztecs for Life! Aztecs are warriors that overcame, so are our diverse students
Aztecs for Life!!!
Aztecs Forever
Aztecs have no relation to San Diego.
Aztecs is so much of the SDSU identity in the community, I think it would be a mistake to abandon it entirely. I would be in favor of keeping the name Aztecs and keeping the logo (which includes an arrow) as it is part of our brand. Can we work to improve the representation of the Aztec mascot, or institute a brief traditional Aztec ceremony before athletic events (i.e. drum or dance)?
AZTECS removed in any way shape or form equal no donations.
Aztecs should be appreciated for the powerful people they were, whose rich heritage SDSU is proud to share and represent not misappropriate
Aztecs were fierce. I am proud to be associate with these great warriors. I want to see the Aztec Warrior eat the hearts of our Mountain West foes.
Aztecs were fierce. We want to be fierce. I can see losing the spear and keeping the feathered headress and warrior garb. Our name doesn't mean we condone human sacrifices.
Being a current employee and SDSU Alumni, I fully support keeping the Aztec moniker.
Being Hispanic with native american roots I feel it would be an honor to have a my heritage represented.
Being of Aztec decent, I thought the use of image and name was appropriate. I don't understand how the use of it was inappropriate.
Comment Box (up to 400 characters):
Conducting a survey from a sample group that most likely knows little to nothing about the histories behind the so-called "aztec" is irresponsible. Rather, the university should provide the community with the actual relevant histories, and not try to obscure the inconvenient truth: the "aztec" is rooted in ignorance and racism. It's time to retire this relic of 20th century racism.
Considering the Aztecs are no longer on earth, what a great way to honor an outstanding culture and people.
Continue to use it done respectfully. I believe the Aztec identity for the university is intended, or should be intended, as a sign of respect for the Aztec culture.

Continued use of the Aztec branding is cultural appropriation, plain and simple. We wouldn't be ok with a team called the SDSU Japanese and a Shinto warrior mascot would we? It denigrates ones ethnicity to be used for branding. People are not mascots.
Could there be a more appropriate human representation of Aztec culture instead?
Culture is not a mascot. The Aztec should be retired.
Do not change anything. I am proud to be an Aztec and to be represented this way.
Do not succumb to political correctness. Let's not waste our time with this frivolous matter; let's do something more productive for this campus such as the campaign for SDSU Mission Valley. Aztecs for llfe!!
Does Apple Corporation retire their logo because the word apple also refer to a fruit, or has biblical adam-and-eve connotations? The word Aztec can have more than one meaning. Our teamm name and mascot has nothing whatsoever to do with some tribe 500 years ago.
Does the unoversity not have anything else to do than deal with this lunacy?
Donâ€™t change anything.
Don't be myopic. SDSU is the Aztecs. Look at the evidence (Mizzou) - give in on this, and kiss traditions, pride, and our future goodbye
Don't have strong feelings about the warrior. But as an alumna, I feel a strong emotional connection to the Aztecs. Many of my college friends define themselves as #AztecsForLife. I think you'd lose a lot of Alumi support (and years worth of marketing efforts) by eliminating Aztecs entirely.
Dont let the voice of the few change the voice ogf the many.
Don't really care whether there is a "human representation of the Aztec Warrior", but I see no reasonable reason to get rid of it.
Drop the aztec and keep the warrior
Education is important, sharing cultures and our diversity amongst all students adds value to their education. If we choose to erase cultural representation, the future will be barren of what makes SDSU unique.
Eliminate football! Don't build a stadium
Every decade, for the past 30 years, this issue surfaces. We have formed committees, addressed new wardrobe, and educational programs. Let's just keep our Aztec name and eliminate the "human mascot".
Everyone has an opinion. Rather than polling members of the SDSU community, perhaps this should be addressed by a local or state wide governing body who are better aware of the statutes and concerns that people are declaring for removal of said mascot and its affiliations.
Everything is fine as is. Appropriate adjustments have already been made. If the university does away with the Aztecs name or Traditions, as recently improved to respect the culture, dedicated alumni such as myself will lose our identity with the school which will undoubtedly affect our monetary support
Fight on SDSU!!!
Find another mascot thatâ€™s not a human. A jaguar or panther. Keep Aztecs, but take away the blatant racist cisgender mate white thin fit human representation
First of all, I am both alumni and staff at SDSU. I strongly oppose the idea of eliminating the Aztec mascot. I have heard the arguments in favor of this action, but the pride and identity of this school lies in its history, which includes the Aztec. As an alumni, I am offended by the notion of this change. If the mascot is changed, my
Focus on aspects of Aztec culture other than the warrior â€“ gender equality, agriculture, commerce, arts and the Aztec calendar come to mind.
FYI - We are not the only institution that uses this image. San Diego has Montgomery high school in Chula Vista that has the same image. I think it is respectful and engaging. The current image is a symbol of pride for the
Give it up, people. Stay in your own lane and let the students decide this issue
Glad you are doing this survey but hope that the decision is not based on survey but on qualitative feedback from stakeholders with the highest stakes in this matter: indigenous people.
Go Aztecs!

GO AZTECS...all hail, revere, respect and honor our campus mascot...Monty Montezuma!
Grow up
Has anyone asked the Native American students, faculty what they think? At least the human representation of an Aztec Warrior is not some cheesy mascot. I think this society is going overboard on being too "politically
Has been moniker for many decades and would serve no purpose to change it now.
Having been a professor and student advisor for 34 years, in a department with more diversity than most on campus. Never, not once, did I have a student complain about "The mascot " nor the "Aztec Identity". This looks like a small minority trying to convince the majority, that the representation of the Aztec Identity, is viewed by many as "offensive" If they succeed? No more support $$, vocal.
Having the Aztec as a name, mascot and identifier of SDSU is no different than having a Spartan, Trojan or other representation of an ancient people. It is time to put this to rest, keep the Aztec and move on to real issues.
He is a warrior. My dad took my to games as a kid and i remember taking pictures with him and looking up to him as a warrior. Now i take my kids to games and they take pictures with him at every game. Its a family
Hello hello hello hello Aztec aztec aztec aztec
Here we go again! I was on the task force convened by President Weber some years ago. The Aztecs (or Mexica) were the dominant group in what becme Mexico at the time of the Spanish conquest. their center of power coincided with the center of Mexico today. Their language was and is Nahuatl and is still spoken by many. They have no historic ties to San Diego. How about no more demeaning of Native Am
HIstory can NOT be changed. By eliminating the AZTEC MAN, you are attempting to eliminate history.
Honestly, this ongoing debate detracts from the important work we are all trying to do at SDSU. It doesn't matter which side of the issue anyone is on. Let this be laid to rest so that we can move forward. And honestly, it is so retrograde to use HUMANS as mascots. It's 2018.
Honoring the Aztec culture is fine. There must be symbols and representations that are approprite we could
how can SDSU claim Aztec identity without any credible connection to the culture and tradition of the Aztec
How is thi even a question?
How many times do we have to revisit this issue? I strongly object to the tyranny of a few who demand on revising our campus culture. Letâ€™s put this whining to rest and celebrate the best of SDSU!
How would one feel if a sports team from another culture (hypothetically) utilizes a negative stereotypical cartoon portrayal "Americans soldiers"? If people feel offended because players don't stand for the National Anthem, and consider this a lack of respect, how can one, disrespect another culture by portraying them with a negative stereotypical cartoon figure that mocks another culture?
Human representation abstracted in a graphic is acceptable, Monty Montezuma in costume at football games is
Human representation and barbaric imagery must go. For heaven's sake, the CLEVELAND INDIANS have retired their native logo. We are way behind the times here...
Human representation is less important than the moniker. Perhaps the compromise.
Humans should never be sports mascots.
I absolutely reject the human representation of the Aztec Warrior as a mascot. I would be inclined to change my views about the moniker if the university created a more intentional path to supporting education of and about indigenous cultures, and invested more of their money (gained often through said branding) into more serious stewardship of responsible cultural studies, Aztec culture, etc.
I agree strongly with ending the use of a human "aztec warrior" - especially as currently employed as half dressed and "savage." I do not agree with the second half of the Senate's resolution #1, as the use of historic weapons does not necessarily connote barbarity - for example when deployed by "Spartans" or "Trojans" or "Knights," etc... Too few characters to respond appropriately :(

I agree that the human representative should be retired, but not the weaponry. The Aztecs culture be better celebrated. Besides ripping a beating heart out of a chest for human sacrifice, their art, engineering, government, language, education system, food, sport, medicine, etc. are all ingenious parts of their society that should be better celebrated. We should install a Ullamaliztli court.
I agree with Charlie Abdelnour: It would be prudent to consider the feelings of thousands of SDSU alumni who are critical to the fundraising life and endurance of San Diego State University as the school makes a decision. I remain a proud son of the university who strongly supports keeping the mighty Aztec warrior as a symbol of endurance, skill and the ability to conquer opponents.
I am a 27 year employee and our entire extended family graduated from SDSU and everyone in our family strongly disagrees with removing the Aztec name, mascot or moniker of any kind from SDSU. All of these are vital and central to the spirit of the univesity (Go Aztecs!) We are Aztecs ! SDSU Aztecs.... There is absolutely nothing offensive or mis-represented in using the Aztec name or mascot.
I am a proud alumna of SDSU and have Latino heritage. I strongly agree that we should continue with our history as the Aztecs. I am an Aztec for life!
I am a proud Aztec. I bleed black and red. This is a waste of time. Leave SDSU's logo, mascot and whatever else alone. Aztecs forever
I am a proud SDSU alumni, and SDSU staff member, and a Native American. I strongly feel that the Aztec moniker is just that; a mascot. It is not offensive, nor demeaning. To get rid of the Aztec moniker or Monte Montezuma would be a huge detriment to SDSU.
I am a SDSU alumni, I work at a SDSU auxiliary, and I indentify myself as Mexican American (Chicana) and I am proud to be represented by the Aztecs and their history. The Aztec identity should be celebrated and recognized. If any change takes place it should only enhance the Aztec identity. Iâ€™m proud to be an Aztec!
I am a white Mexican and the blood that runs through my veins through culture and family is the strongest part of me although I'm only a quarter Hispanic. Isn't it a trocity to see where our world has gone concerning the joy of unity and culture division is futile and we will all suffer in the end if we cannot come to a simple loving
I am AZTEC PROUD
I am interested as to what would replace the Aztec moniker if it were changed. I love SDSU's history, but if the use of the Aztec moniker is seen as offensive to one's culture I would hope that our community can find an
I am Lecturer in Civil Engr Dept & full time engineer with local private company. I, my wife, & close friends & colleagues are very proud & locally successful Alumni, are very big supporters of SDSU and the engr dept, of which the Aztec name is extremely important. I personally don't care either way about the human or spears, but the Aztec name must stay and be celebrated.
I am like many people in this country in that I do not have a cultural heritage. Through my employment at SDSU and as a member of the community, I am now an Aztec. It does not offend me that my Aztec heritage is represented with statues or, when the university athletics teams are preparing or engaged in competition, as a hostile warrior. I prefer the current human Aztec to a cartoonish mascot.
I am Mexican American, first generation born in the USA. I have hundreds of years of Hispanic, Mexican native, and Mexican traditions in my family. And none of them are hurt, or feel like itâ€™s a misrepresentation or making fun of. Itâ€™s a mascot. We understand. And we love having our culture represented.
I am Mexican and appreciate the Aztec presence at SDSU. I wouldn't want to tame their history and make them more "civilized". I grew up admiring this culture.
I am not entirely familiar with the position taken against the current moniker and Aztec Warrior. I firmly believe that what is important to the cultural group should be honored.
I am of Aztec decent and I am proud of having my people represented as the SDSU mascot. I have never been offended by the how we have been represented. I am offended by the continual move to erase all that is indigenous in the name of political correctness.
I am of Hispanic heritage and find it absolutley NOT offensive at all.

I am of Mexican decent with ties leading all the way back to the Zapotecs, close relatives of the Aztecs themselves, and I carry no offense of any kind towards the representation of the Aztecs. The Aztec is a symbol strength and intelligence as they were a great empire and SDSU is a great exemplification of those two traits. Please keep the Aztec and do not let them be forgotten.
I am ok with retiring the human representation of the Aztec Warrior if there are people truly offended by it but I strongly believe we should keep the Aztec moniker.
I am so pleased that President Roush is taking this matter seriously. If any among our SDSU community are hurt or offended my the moniker or the image we should change it. Period. We are in institution of learning and if any among us feels unwelcome or belittled, it hurts all of us.
I am sure you losers will give into the few that cry racism. Especially with a sympathetic latin pres.
I am undecided on question 2. I think the human representation should be toned down a bit.
I am very glad that this issue is finally being addressed!
I appreciate the Aztec culture and don't see the Aztec Warrior as offensive. I know someone of Mexican culture related to the Aztecs and she is proud that the Aztecs is still represented in society today through our school.
I believe more education and a stronger meaning of what the campus FEELS the word Aztec means to us. We/I never thought the Aztec name meant to appropriate a warrior culture. Aztec has always meant a sense of pride and strength--a proud, intelligent and strong people from the past, projected on a campus full of strong,
I believe SDSU should keep the Aztec Warrior our mascot as it has been tradition and I find nothing offensive or
I believe that it is taking the high road socially for our community to honor the perspectives of Native American/indigenous people to remove all elements that potentially stereotype explicitly or implicitly. It is most definitely a move in the right direction to remove spears, etc. -- those artifact that associate indigenous people as violent. I do believe we should keep the "Aztecs" moniker.
I believe that SDSU has taken valuable steps in representing Aztecs in a respectful manner. I do believe SDSU has a responsibility to make adjustments regarding the appropriateness of the Aztec moniker and should definitely consider significant concerns. But SDSU is not being disrespectful like the Cleveland Indians and Chief Wahoo or the Washington Redkins.
I believe that should the usage of the warrior continue it should be more based in historical fact than a romanticized, comedic version.
I believe that the Aztec culture, and that of Native Americans, can be respected by our community without having to retire the existing symbols. To me, the Aztec warrior represents power and strength and has the potential, if properly used, to inform younger generations about the Aztec culture.
I believe that the Aztec represents a proud heritage of strong character, rich diversity and many technological advances. They were also mighty warriors. I do not see how the Aztec is barbaric (even though they did things that seemed barbaric such as human sacrifice). For these reasons, I believe the Aztec is a great symbol for SDSU, as long as the Aztec is represented in this way (not barbaricall
I believe that we should make tribute and educate the people about the Aztec Culture. Maybe a commercial through out events. A trivia game to see who knows more about the Aztec culture. Include a Map of South America and its architectural advances along with the strength as a warrior. Celebrate who they are and why we as Aztecs identify with them being Aztecs. We are "Aztec Strong"
I believe that we use the aztec warrior as a sign of strength and toughness. I love what it stands for and would be highly disappointed to have what that stands for taken away from our university. If that was my family name, I would be proud of what it stands for.
I believe the Aztec name and mascot have an ingrained history in San Diego and I do not find them offensive in
I believe the Aztec warrior celebrates the strength and power of a very advanced culture. SDSU is not using the Aztec symbolism in a demeaning or insulting fashion. I think asking actual descendants of the Aztec people if they are upset by this would be much more revealing than the faculty of SDSU, many of whom have little right to claim any umbrage on this topic one way or another.

I believe the task force should help us in defining how we should provide education about Aztecs and how to take care in the usage of the word Aztec. However, taking away the Aztec, Monty & Zuma name would cause damage to alumni identity (there are thousands of them) and how the San Diego community refers to SDSU. Additionally, it is rare for a mascot to look and sound like it's true form...
I can only understand the offense through the lens of the people for whom the Aztec Warrior depicts. When they find it offensive then who am I to disagree?
I can see the inappropriateness of a human representation of the Aztecs, although they are actually an ancient race. However, I strongly think we should maintain the name Aztecs. Indians and Braves (Redskins is for sure) could be considered insulting to some but Spartans, Vikings, and indeed Aztecs are not identified with by living
I completed undergraduate & graduate degrees here & have worked at SDSU for over 9 years now. I have so much pride being an Aztec. Over the summer, I took a family vacation to St. Louis, and there was an older gentleman, mid-70s or late 70s, who saw my Aztec hat and yelled out "AZTECS!" & told us how much he loved attending SDSU.Provide more history & cultural education on Aztecs though.
I did a clicker poll of 100 students: 85% keep the Aztec, 15% get rid of it. So, we should keep it.
I did not answer the last two questions because my answers will depend on the results of the task force
I do not have strong feelings about questions 1 and 2, but based upon discussions of colleagues in Mexico who ARE descendants of the Aztecs I think the two Senate resolutions are not founded on fact.
I don't agree with retiring the human mascot for the Aztecs, however it should be noted that the mascot is the Aztec *warrior*. The warrior was a known and respected class of Aztec society, so noting this key point would avoid over-generalization of people of Aztec heritage as violent/barbaric.
I don't agree with the decision to not name the participants in the committee process until after the process is over and this decision has given SDSU a black eye.
I don't care that much about the human representation. Aztecs needs to stay.
I don't feel Mascots should be human or based in any culture. Animals, Weather, Rocks, Plants are all fine.
I don't have a good suggestion for question 1. Wampus cats? It is historical and San Diegan.
I don't have a strong opinion about the Aztec Warrior one way or the other.
I don't have strong feelings about the mascot, but I do have strong feelings opposing the time and resources that this issue is taking from a resource-strapped institution. There are more important issues to spend our resources
I don't like the language of "misappropriation of Aztec identity." It is enough that our use and depicting of Aztec is not respectful to the descendants of the Aztec civilization.
I don't mind the human mascot per se. However, as a woman, it is annoying that the embodiment of the ultimate Aztec is a male warrior. I think general Aztecs as mascots is good. That way, there is not one, gendered description. Also, the Aztecs were awesome and there is much to respect and honor. I am proud to say that I am
i don't really care whether we keep "Aztec". just had to pick one for the yes no question. i don;t think anybody really cares to keep it. mascots and monikers are so low on everybody's priority list it is a joke we have to deal with this. people just don;t like being told they can't do/keep something or that they are wrong in some way.give it four years after we drop it and no one will care.
I don't think the Aztec moniker should be considered any differently than the many other similar school monikers (e.g. Florida State Seminoles, Edmonton Eskimos, and many others). There is pride and honor to be reflected from those peoples, and SDSU should work to reflect and preserve the best aspects of those cultures.
I feel like I don't know enough about why this is so concerning for everyone. I get the general idea, however, I think we need to be more informed of the pros and cons of this debate. In moving forward perhaps we can stick to the Aztec logo and show the positives to the culture. The Aztec culture is rich and beautiful as opposed to the
I feel that the people/communities whose heritage these symbols represent should be asked these questions; it can feel helpless to have oneâ€™s culture/identity be the subject of opinion and/or philosophical debate
i feel the aztec warrior is being portrayed in a positive, non-demeaning manner. i say keep himi!

I feel the Aztec Warrior represents a mighty image. He is a representation of a mighty long agoculture that is part of history.I do not feel he is offensive at all.
I feel we should continue to use the Aztec moniker. We need to involve the indigenous people that would be classified as the Aztecs of the past. As long as we have done our due diligence to ensure that we are respecting the past and not tarnishing the aztec people heritage we are fine. Make the human representation as accurate
I find the Aztec Warrior human representation to be one that pays homage to the history and culture of a people that no longer exist. The Aztec warrior is inspiring and educational and will surely be forgotten if SDSU strips away the mascot. The Aztec Warrior represents family, community, strength, pride, possibility, opportunity,
I have been a staff member here for three years, and hsve numerous family memebers who have attended SDSU aand are proud alumni. I agree that the human mascot should be retired, but the name should be kept.
I have been an "Aztec" since 1966, but it is time to let go of our demeaning names and symbols
I have been on campus since 1962, and aa an Alum as well as a staff person I will always be an Aztec an d hope to have Monty in my life. I grew up in the Campus area and as a little girl I always knew iI would become an Aztec. Do not let that dream for someone else disappear!
I have come to identify myself as an aztec and believe it is part of SDSU culture to become one.
I have grown up in San Diego my whole life and would be greatly sadden to see the Aztecs no longer represented here. The issue is bigger than the Univeristiy, the whole community takes pride in the Aztecs. Students will come and go but the community is here their whole lifes.
I have mixed feelings about this issue. I am of Mexican descent and I feel that the use of the Aztec warrior is in some respects an honor, but I agree that in the past, the Monty mascot has represented the Aztec as barbaric or clownish, and I don't appreciate that. I'd like us to keep the Aztec name but would be fine with retiring the human representation if it'll make others happy.
I have no problem with the use of the current Athletic logos. However, the current human representation of the Aztec Warrior does not accurately or appropriately portray historical and cultural facts.
I haven't made up my mind on this. I understand that people find the mascot offensive and I want to honor that concern. I'm also wondering how other universities have created agreements with groups to continue usage. I'm also wondering if there is a way to be respectful in the use of the mascot? Or would all representations be seen
I like to be identified as an Aztec, but I don't like the human representation. I agree with the current use of the Aztec symbol. The use of weapons is only part of the Aztec identity, but it is hard to separate it from the overall Aztec concept. Although it will be nice to include other aspects of the Aztec culture like their art. Overall, I think
I love the idea of having all students take a required course on the history of the Aztec civilization.
I never saw how SDSU is connected to the Aztec empire. I would prefer something related to our unique region.
I really like the way you've set this up -- asking about the _spirit_ of these resolutions is constructive. Thank you.
I recommend that taxpayer money not be spent creating or supporting this task force. An all-volunteer task force
I see little difference between the Aztecs and the Spartans or the Trojans.
I see no issue with either the name or the representation. It should be an honor for the Aztec culture to be recognized in this manner. SDSU has always represented the Aztec culture with the utmost respect. We have much bigger issues that this to address on campus. Why should a handful of people change something that is so important to a large majority of the poeple. Quit catering to the few
I see our mascot as a great opportunity to educate people about the Aztecs and I feel that we tastefully represent them without disrespecting them.
I serve on the Academic senate. I voted against the senate resolution. I believe our identity as SDSU Aztecs is important to the university communityâ€”it unites us. At SDSU our complex, diverse, multi-cultural community of scholars, athletes, artists, musicians and people all come together to adopt a common identity. For over nearly 100 years SDSU has loosely interpreted the cultural symbols o
I still love the original majorette with her head-dress, baton, lil boots...so damn kewt! Just make mascot the Aztec Calendar and then everyone is happy.

I strongly believe in tradition and SDSU is unique in this matter. Aztecs are strong and intellectual. We should also focus on the positive aspects of Aztecs other than the negatives.
I strongly believe that SDSU should discontinue all usage of the Aztec mascot out of respect for the many First Nation peoples devastated by the arrival of Europeans, as well as the continued discrimination and dehumanization faced by their descendants, including both Native American and Latine individuals, in this
I strongly believe that there is no place at a University for the use of human mascots (and the stereotypes and embedded history that they carry). I am also concerned that a task force may not be balanced in terms of its make-up; further concern that task force not operate in secret. Transparency matters.
I strongly want to keep "Aztecs" for the SDSU identity. I don't really care about the human representation of an Aztec. Let's face it, that culture was pretty brutal, so maybe that's a reason to retire the guy with the spear. But, I want to keep the name and some representation of "Aztec", also the statue of Monty. I agree to a task force if the persons on it are identified. Why the secrecy?
I suggest that the task force contact Aztec people to ask their ideas also. Aztecs have community organizations in Mexico and the US. The last time SDSU considered this issue, in the late 1990s, I made this suggestion, and I did not see any news that they acted on it. Apparently, people in San Diego debated whether Aztecs are offended,
I teach a class on colonial Mexico and I have a Ph.D. in Latin American history. We do not "honor" the Aztecs by perpetrating what amounts to identity theft or by disassociating this debate from the issue of contemporary racism against Native Americans here or in Mexico. We are an institution of higher learning. The Aztec moniker is a symbol of racist ideology. We don't need it.
I think a change from the "Aztecs" to the "Aztec Warriors" would be acceptable
I think a task force made up of representatives of SDSU and the Native Culture should come together to decide
I think as an Alum, San Diego native and staff member on campus it is very important to keep the Aztec moniker alive, less important for the human representation. We should honor the culture and create a museum on campus. Don't remove the Aztec name!!
I think continued use of the mascot makes SDSU look out of date, as more forward-looking institutions are phasing out this type of cultural use.
I think eliminating the Aztec moniker and mascot would not serve the university well. I understand being sensitive to students who identify with the Aztec culture, but where does it end?
I think groups who are sensitive to this culture and it's identity as well as experts in the culture should be consulted before advancing any further ideas about sticking with an "Aztec" identity. Perhaps an animal symbol might be useful. Otherwise, drop it completely and start over.
I think if SDSU is going to use the Aztec moniker, they should also provide education about the Aztec and their contributions to civilization.
I think in a true democracy, the majority representation should win. The majority of PUBLIC (excluding the SDSU Senate) has ALWAYS been to keep the Aztec identity. We must do something about our campus' overly sensitive PC culture... in this instance there is no malice, bigotry, or hatred in the current Aztec representation. As alumni and staff I take pride being an Aztec!
I think in order to keep the human representation of the Aztec Warrior, the person should have to attend a training about what he's wearing and how it's sacred to the Aztec culture. He can learn, experience, and share the Aztec culture with other to grow awareness and pride within our SDSU community.
I think it is important to keep the Aztec moniker for various reasons. With that, there really is not a way to have an Aztec mascot without it being a human or a large stuffed image. The human is the better way to go.
I think it is ridiculous to think about changing the name of the school and the mascot!
I think Monty the human representation could be offensive to others but I don't believe we should lose the Aztec moniker. Maybe we can have an Aztec Mythologic creature or weapon?

I think most of us agree that the human representation of the Aztec mascot is not necessary or needed at this time. The moniker on the other hand is something that has brought and brings many generations of this great university together. It is a slippery slope as it could cause alumni to quit donating pending the name change. By removing the mascot, but keeping the moniker, that is fair.
I think SDSU should be proud to continue to represent the Aztecs. I can understand and encourage finding an alternative to what he carries, and stop the use of "spears, etc."
I think that the representation of the Aztec warrior is a respectful one that indeed represents, at least tangentially, some of the students we serve. I view identifying ourselves with such a strong and respectful representation of a native culture of Aztlan to be a strength for our campus as it affirms a commitment to our
I think the Aztec moniker should stay. "Aztec for life" is very important to being Aztec Alumni. The human Aztec warrior can go if that is most offensive, but do not replace with a 'foam' mascot either.
I think the mascot could be different, but the Aztecs did use spears and weapons, and I don't think that is a problem. But could the mascot look more like a human? Right now it looks like a hairy beast, unless I am
I think the opinions of American Indians matter more on this particular issue than those of white people like me.
I think the SDSU community takes great pride in the Aztec identity and as long as it is represented respectfully I think it should be kept.
I think the students vetted these questions several years ago and were happy with what is now current for the Aztec mascot and logos. This is for the students AND Alumni. With the university wanting to acquire Mission Valley for SDSU West Campus, the president would be very UNWISE to annoy over 200,000 alumni who the
I think the use of the Aztecs moniker needs to be investigated. Because Aztec dance is a contemporary art form that is very beautiful and powerful, I think that authentically representing this tradition, which may be hard as a mascot, and keeping the moniker can celebrate this art form
I think there are many positive ways that we can use the Aztec moniker - We can use this as an opportunity to celebrate the Aztec people, culture, and history. I am in favor of keeping the Aztec identity.
I think there is a way to retain the moniker and perhaps even the human representation that is respectful and that honors rather than diminishes this ancient culture.
I think using Aztec identity can be a positive and respectful if used as opportunity to educate others about the culture and history. Many students and alumni I have communicated with are very proud to be an Aztec.
I think we should keep the name Aztecs, but remove the mascot as if offends others.
I think we should keep the name of the Aztecsand emphasize the philosophical purpose in the Aztec culture. I would like to see the warrior symbols removed. Let's just tweak the logo.
I think you will lose a lot of the alumni support by changing the mascot. We are Aztecs for life!
I view the Aztec moniker and human representation as a done in respectful way and not offensive.
I was born and raised in Mexico and I do not feel offended by the usage of the Aztec moniker. Maybe if you loose the weapons, would be more acceptable
I will not give the school any money if they change it
I worked on the Aztec identity the last time the university did this---and talked to a number of real Aztecs. They strongly approved of using their name and history as it is held up in a very complimentary way. When we worked to provide images of what their culture and religion was, it was barbaric and brutal and they were very proud of it. How about hunger, homelessness, crime, human trafficking?
I would like to remain an "Aztec for Life!" I can perhaps be persuaded to a character mascot but it MUST be a Warrior nonetheless!!
I would not be opposed to keeping the Aztec moniker or the human representation of the Aztec warrior if there was a very strong education component. In addition, the human representation would have to accurately reap resent the culture of the Aztecs and would preferably be a role filled by someone with Aztec roots in their own
I would rely on the task force's outcomes, but I believe there's a role for an Aztec that does not brandish weapons. Aztecs were many things besides warriors...

I wouldnâ€™t mind the Aztec Warrior representation as long as itâ€™s not derogatory
I'd be interested in a non-human mascot.
Ideas that could be helpful regarding Aztec identity should be presented to said committee.
If Aztecs are represented in a respectful and educational way I think it can be a value for those who have the Aztec heritage. It can keep their culture alive and educate the community.
If changes are make it will cost the University money, not the best thing to do when we are trying to expand the campus in mission valley. Go Aztecs!
If it were my heritage, I would be thrilled, and in a way, it is as I am an AZTEC FOR LIFE! The questions seem confusing for a real answer ... many may answer in the opposite because of that. GO AZTECS! THE HUMAN
If SDSU moves away from the "Aztec" perhaps Conquistadors would be more appropriate for a university in the San Diego region.
If SDSU wants to be historically accurate, they could have Monty run out onto the court or field and remove the heart from a living sacrifice. Turks do not resent the Trojans, and the Irish seem okay with Notre Dame's leprechaun. This is just identity politics run amok.
If the Aztec moniker continues to represent our university then an Aztec history course or Nahautil language course should be a humanities requirement.
If the human representation of an Aztec warrior is offensive to the people from that culture, I agree with eliminating it. The rest of the requests are asking too much. Thank you for your time.
If the image is of something true to actual history, and presented in a positive fashion (which it is). Then I think the Mascot/Logo should remain as is, as long as it is done in a respectful fashion. I think the image is bold, proud, and projects power. What are we going to show? A current day Aztec in a suit?
If the people who are opposing the use of "Aztecs" are actual Aztec Indians, & they find SDSU's use of an Aztec Warrior to be offensive, then of course, considerations should be made. Has anyone even bothered to ask the
If the representation demonstrates admiration for the Aztecs, it's a good thing!
If the representation of the Aztec Warrior and their is historical reasons as to why SDSU chose the Aztecs in the first place, I think it's ok to keep them as our mascot. Misrepresenting the Aztecs and/or the Aztec Warrior is
If this was an African American there would be not question. Why is there hesitation with Native American symbols and characterizations?
If we are going to get rid of the Aztecs moniker, we should get rid of the red and black too. And could we be called the Sea Cucumber instead?
If we are not Aztecs who are we. If we change who we are, are those who preceded us "others"? Perhaps we could emphasize other aspects of Aztec culture - other than the warrior class.? Did the Aztecs make significant advances in agriculture, engineering, science and math? I
If you start here, where do you draw the line? There will always be someone who is offended, or feign offense.
If you're going to get rid of the Aztec identity, you need to get rid of all the vestiges - name, moniker, weaponry. I am not offended by Aztec culture so I am ambivalent on this issue
I'm adamant about keeping the name, less so about the human representation. I think broadening the human representation to include females, rather than removing humans altogether, would be a move in the right direction. I have always felt that the use of Aztec names and imagery at SDSU has been respectful, but I'm not
I'm agnostic about the moniker, but Iâ€™m opposed to the time and resources this issue consumes when there are more important issues to address. I teach a class where students select a culture to write a final paper about and every year at least one student chooses Aztec culture. They learn a lot, and they view the culture with respect and pride, so for that reason I see the moniker as a good thing.
I'm an Aztec, as in my Grandmother was an indigenous woman who spoke Nuhua as her first language. I have no problem whatsoever with this University's continued useage of Aztec as a symbol, moniker, and/or logo. The term 'Aztec' on this campus has always been associated with pride, with honor, with strength, passion and integrity. And our Aztec mascot, Monty, has always been a source of pride -

I'm encouraged that the administration is considering ending the use of this deeply offensive racism and cultural appropriation.
I'm not alumni so perhaps not as attached to the mascot as others, although I am a native San Diegan and admit there is some nostalgia attached to it. Since the Aztecs were a people, I don't know how you can make that a mascot without human representation. Warriors were a key part of their culture, but so was agriculture.
I'm not sure about keeping the Azrwc moniker.
I'm proud to be an Aztec. Leave the moniker. SDSU needs stop giving in to every demand from the community, and actually show some resolve and conviction. Constantly giving in to erroneous demands makes the SDSU administration look weak and disorganized. Obviously this comment is about more than just the renaming of the
I'm staff as well as an alum and I am Aztec Proud. I interact with alumni on a daily basis both professionally and personally and every person that I've spoken with about this issue feels we should keep the Aztec as is.
I'm was pleased with the previous task force's human representation of our Aztec Mascot. I am horrified as an an alumni and employee to have this discussion brought up again. I will not give up my Aztec Pride.
In a proud Aztec alumni and a school recognizing and having the Aztec as our moniker should celebrated.
In my opinion, the Aztec identity of SDSU honors the Aztec civilization. It is similar to an identity as Trojans or Spartans. The human representation of an Aztec Warrior is appropriate, although he could perhaps be more fully
In my opinion, the use of Aztec names and symbols indicates an admiration for the Aztec culture, not a demeaning of it. Also, just because a person/symbol has a nickname (Monty) which is basically just a shortening of the full name, does not mean he/it is being disrespected.
In my personal opinion, the Aztec moniker celebrates and honors historical Aztec culture. There is some concern over barbaric representation, but is what we celebrate at the Miramar Air Show any less savage? I acknowledge the concerns for cultural appropriation, but have reservations over this concept because I worry that it discourages fun, celebratory sharing of diverse cultural experiences.
In question 1, I agree to to keep the representation of an Aztec as mascot, but retire the use of weapons that connote barbarism.
In sensitivity to native Americans I think they should have a voice in the final choice. There is brand recognition for the Aztec name associated with SDSU.
In the late '60's and ' 70 when Chicano Studies program was being fought for I don't recall the furor of rejecting the Aztec name or the Monte Montazuma figure. Of course in those days Tuffi Avi portrayed a REAL warrior, and dressed the same as the Aztec dancers we had one year at the football games. The warrior we have now just doesn 't cut it in my eyes, as it is a very Anglicized (?) and PC
In this age of "political correctness" we might as well give up the whole Aztec moniker. Otherwise this issue will just keep going on and on.
Indigenous peoples are not mascots for institutional use. They are peoples and societies deserving of respect, not to be paraded around. How does having the Aztec moniker specifically help regional indigenous peoples?
Investigation of this issue by a representative task force was done multiple times in the past so it won't resolve
is a â€œcaucasianâ€ or â€œwhitefaceâ€ as a university symbol appropriate? if the answer is no, then â€œaztecâ€ is also not appropriate.
It does seem rather culturally insensitive and the Aztec nation has nothing to do with San Diego
It is absurd and shameful that we are putting such an issue of minority rights to a campus "vote/survey." It is equally shameful that SDSU is willing to continue to be on the wrong side of history
It is academically inaccurate, racist, and disrespectful and affects the outreach and retention of native students.
It is an ancient dead culture just like Spartans, Vikings, and SDSU has done a great job in depicting the Aztec culture with respect. It honors the spirit of an ancient culture.
It is appropriate to keep moniker as long as we treat them with respect and affection. Absence of malice justifies depicting specific cultural icon with affection such as Vikings and Samurai.

It is disrespectful to reduce the Aztec nation to Sport Mascot terms (as you would an animal like a bull or a mustang). Just look at the racist cartoon character that is the mascot for the Cleveland Indians...
It is far past time for SDSU to retire this mascot. The mascot reinforces stereotypes and biases against Native people among numerous related issues. Other institutions have retired their racist and outdated mascots and we
It is important that the SDSU community have knowledge of who will be making the recommendations on the Task Force. This visibility will help the community identify the diversity of the decision.
It is impossible to separate the Aztec identity from the history of genocide. I am appalled that SDSU would use the identity for entertainment purposes and thereby trivialize what happened to native Americans when this land was being colonized by Europeans.
It is long overdue to retire the Aztec mascot and identity, which has no relationship either with San Diego or with local Indigenous people. We'll be just fine without it. Please do the right thing and retire the Aztec moniker.
It is representative of both Mexican culture and history as well as the connections San Diego brings between the two countries it brings pride and awareness to all
It is surprising to see such an ill informed approach and attitude toward their Aztec Warriior. How do we just divest ourselves of a tradition and one that reflects accurately on the Aztec people? Why is it so hard to honor the past? There must be room in our world for symbols like this without it becoming such a heated issue. History is full of things that are now repulsive. Is the Aztec War
It is the history of the school and it is tastefully represented and shows diversity among the Universities it makes students like myself of Mexican descent feel included and proud to be at a university that accepts my culture and makes others proud to be called aztecs. We can see this even through the Aztec Proud campaign.
It is time for all schools and professional athletic clubs to retire the use of culturally-insensitive depictions of other nations and peoples.
It is time for SDSU to give up the racist representation of a peoples. A group of indigenous people is not an appropriate "mascot."
It is very disingenuous and in fact dangerous that you are even creating a survey "that reviews the Senate Resolution". The Senate has spoken, and this seems like a clear attempt to undermine its decision.
It seems like there must be some way to honor the Aztec tradition without removing the Aztec as the symbol of SDSU. The reason Aztecs was adopted was probably to honor, and certainly not to deride, the Aztec culture.
it seems to me that the mascot is simply a cartoon-ish character that portrays courage, a fighting spirit, and pride. It is for the Athletic teams and fans to embrace as an identity.
It should not be up to the dominant group (non-latinos) to decide the appropriateness of the mascot. If members of the latino/Aztec comm. say it's offensive its only our place to right the wrong, not debate if it is right or wrong. Collectively we cannot continue to act in discriminatory and offensive ways when we know better. How much longer do they have to endure the lack of respect by SDSU
It sickens me to think of the history of a school will be changed because we wish to have a worrier representing
It would be nice if the Aztec moniker remained but a different symbol of Aztec culture was used as the "mascot"
It would be very expensive to totally re-brand the University. I'd suggest highlighting the positive things about the Aztec culture rather than the negative ones. That would result in a skewed representation of a culture, but possible less controversy. There were some horrendous practices in that culture that we do not want to glorify!
Itâ€™s importsnt to distinguish the attributes of educating around the culture and history of Aztecsif the name remains this is an essential component to understand and honor the culture NOT appropriate it
It's all in peopleâ€™s perspectives and we live in a society where people get offended easily or they just want to argue and be right. In high school, I was a Trojan. In college, I was a Knight. In University, an Aztec for life. I do not see a difference between these 3 historic warriors known for their valor/societal position. I hope you are not basing your decision to please querulous individuals.
its been used for over 100 years why all of a sudden the racial crap im mexican/Aztec and I approve this

It's in part up to the communities who self-identify as "Aztec", though I'm not sure if there are any such groups. I also believe that our students are inspired to learn about Aztec culture and history because of our mascot. Isn't it worse if we erase the memory of the original inhabitants?
It's not racist. The people that are fighting this really need to get a life tbh. It's preserving the culture
It's pretty weird to call yourselves the Aztecs when the Nahua are still around. Why don't we call ourselves the Germans? Or the Canadians?
It's racist! We need to increase access and retention to native american students and this is not an inclusive for the student population.
It's racist. It promotes a stereotype. It's offensive. I'd love love keep the SD logo w/ the spear and just be the
It's something to be PROUD of! Stop all the nonsense crap that it might hurt someone's feelings! Aztecs are strong warriors, fearless, conquerors, solid....be PROUD!!
It's the 21st Century. The appropriation of the Aztec civilization as SDSU's moniker is historically inaccurate and morally inappropriate.
It's time to retire using American Indians as a mascot, that is not appropriate in this day and age, and does not represent diversity and tolerance and respect of all people, as SDSU should want to do.
Just another waste of resources and shows the ongoing disconnect between academia and the real world.
Just leave things as is
Just make adjustments so it would not offend the others, e.g. keep the mascot without spears
Keep Aztec only if it is represented accurately and in a positive way...with the education around the meaning
Keep Monty or Lose my donations.
Keep the Aztec and the Aztec Warrior this is tradition and only a small group of people want it removed. Stand up SDSU and stick with tradition and stop worrying about being PC.
Keep the Aztec human rep and the Aztec name for SDSU. Just get rid of the weapons, which for obvious reasons are not appropriate in this present culture in regard to gun control, etc.
Keep the Aztec Warrior and be proud of its representation.
Keep the mascot but put more clothing on him or her.
Keep the moniker. Keep the mascot. Aztecs for life.
Keep the name but honor the tribe and history properly!! Educate students the history of Aztec and why we want the name associated with SDSU. Respect!
Keep the name, but find an image that doesn't offend people.
Keep the name, ditch the logo and mascot. You dehumanize people when you make cartoons of them.
Keeping the Aztec Moniker and Human Rep is, to me, a great way to keep the Aztec culture/history ALIVE and not just in history books. The Aztecs died out nearly 500 years ago. Keeping the fierce warrior and the moniker are signs of respect, honor, and favor. Just because students didn't do it "right" decades ago, doesn't mean we aren't striving to do it "right" now. KEEP THE AZTEC!!!
Keeping the mascot will put the university on the wrong side of history. It is clear which way the wind is blowing, retire the mascot and put an end to this blemish on our record.
Leadership starts here for demonstrating a mascot is not what defines SDSU. We are an institution of higher education that supports tolerance and respect. We should lead by example.
Leave it alone
leave the university heritage alone. The Aztec warrior was a great person, let's celebrate him in our American history and university history
LET IT BE RESOLVED, that SDSU use their time for more important issues such as deciding whether to pay student athletes more than the required amount of their scholarships.
Let it be. We are aztwcs for life! We are not disrespectful
Let SDSU be a role model for all sports franchises that hold on to out of date and offensive monikers and icons, by making the change.

Let the people it affends go somewhere else. They were not made to go here. The choise is theres to go where they are comfordable with the moniker.
Let this be the END of this issue.
Let those who claim to be offended by the use the name "Aztecs" protest outside all businesses in San Diego and elsewhere with "Aztec" or "Azteca" in their names.
Let us be warriors and not potato slugs
Let's be a leader in the community as San Diego State University has always done. We can do this by retiring the use of the Aztec. Native peoples have been historically underrepresented since the beginning of history. It doesn't matter if the minority opinion is that the Aztec mascot should be retired; it is a minority opinion because there are so few natives left today. Thank you for considering.
Let's focus on improving teaching and graduating students, two things that actually matter.
Let's go back to our former mascot--the Wampus Cats. If native and/or Hispanic students (whether a small or large group) are offended by the mascot, then why not change it to be more inclusive? That is part of the
Let's move on into the 21 Century already
Let's not be crazy here. The Aztec, as represented by SDSU's use, is honorable, strong and could only offend someone fired with the desire to be offended.
Let's start fresh.
Long overdue!
Look around. It's a new era. It's time to change.
Look at the conclusions of previous times this issue has been given public attention within the University.
Lose the human representation of the Aztec Warrior but keep the symbols and logos.
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make the mascot, in the word of the resolution, less "barbaric"
Make the Warrior authentic. And keep it.
Mascots that tie a school to a concept (warrior, the Jazz, etc.) or to a created symbold identifyer (named anthropomorphic creations) or to an animal)The terrimoins, the Banana Slugs) are pretty much uncrontroversial. Using real peoples, real identities to connote the strenght of a institution/sport team oven devolve into disrespectful terriotory. We should be better than that.
Maybe there should be education around the meaning and reasoning for the use of the Aztec mascot. I see it as powerful and something to be proud of, rather than derogatory. Perhaps education around the history of Aztecs, through plaques etc would be helpful. Maybe a random person dressed as a warrior is not the best option anymore, but keeping the aztec name and logos and statues is fine.
Maybe we could just be the Warriors.
More effort should be spend to obtaining funding from Sacramento so you dont have to keep raising tuition. All these side issues distract from the real issue, affordability. It is time for a grown up conversation about real issues that affect the University, not some side show about a mascot
Most Universities have an Identity. Ours happens to be the Aztec warrior. We should be proud of our school Identity and stop worring about being politically correct.
My ancestors were proud Aztecs and Iâ€™m not offended by the Aztec mascot AT ALL I will tell my children that they have Aztec blood and we are proud of our Aztec identity.The majority of my family members feel that there is no misappropriation: mascot (including human represent). please choice what the majority want even if that is to change the name becaus that is whatdemocracy is all about.
My answer for q. 2 is really neither agree nor disagree. I like the Aztec Warrior and ok with keeping it, but I'm open to change if the majority votes for it. I strongly believe SDSU should continue to be Aztecs.
My only disagreement with using Aztec and Montezuma is that they were losers. Montezuma was stoned to death by his own people. The Aztecs were invaders of others territory.

my opinion is that this should be looked on as an honer to represent a major university rather than as an insult or slap in the face
N/A
Names of the members of the Task Force should be made public immediately. It has no credibility otherwise.
Never, ever would I wish to misrepresent/disparage any culture; but Aztecs WERE warriors, and fiercely proud. As part Mexican, I find the representation of a strong, non-white, hero inspiring. Other than firearms/sailing, the Aztecs were vastly ahead of the Conquistador homeland in myriad ways (they had plumbing for gods sake). Viva
nn
none
One only needs to check out the engravings that line the athletic field, pok ta pok or Tlachtli, depicting decapitation and other deadly event. AT A BALL GAME! Someone needs to investigate these barbaric representations and discover that this was Aztec Culture.
Our Aztec honors a long extinct culture that deserves to be remembered, not forgotten.
People are proud to stand behind the Aztec name but have zero knowledge of the actual Aztec people. It's time to get rid of the racist mascot.
People who hold the heritage and identity related to the Aztec moniker and it's history may perceive that this school sees them as violent. The human representation makes is seem/feel more concrete of a belief that our institution possesses as well. We should hold a duty to create a welcoming environment for all students to feel safe at our school. If students feel unsafe, we need to investigate.
Perhaps the Aztec could be a mythical, brave and intelligent looking bird.
Plan A: No more exploitation of Native American identity. Plan B: Keep Aztec name, make course in pre-European American history compulsory for every "proud Aztec."
Please allow SDSU to continue to honor the historical legacy of this culture by maintaining the appropriate usage of the name "Aztecs" in reference to our wonderful University, SDSU.
PLEASE do not get rid of the Aztec name!!! There is nothing degrading about it and the overwhelming percentage of alumni want to keep it. I am proud of the Aztec tradition and it would be a travesty to let a minority change that. Aztec Forever. Scott Corcoran 1980 BS. 1984 MS
Please don't ignore the will of our students and alumni on this issue. Also, please be transparent and present vote breakdown for each question you are asking on this survey. I hope you survey students and alumni as well. Their opinions matter and should be respected.
Please leave the mascot alone. I am sure until the mascot will be retired, this effort will continue.
Please let us no longer use human beings as mascots. I speak as an alum and faculty member.
Please retire this school mascot as soon as possible. It's offensive beyond words. . . .
Please, please stop this nonsense. Keep the current moniker and mascot and close this once and for all!
Political correctness gone too far.
Possible misappropriation of Aztec identity? Really? Do you want the Stadium? Removing the word Aztec from SDSU will doom the stadium deal and undo millions of dollars of branding. I don't care about the fate of the
Probably should just save everyone the time and energy and just change it to a giant snowflake and keep it in a
Q22
Question two is ambiguous because a task force weighing in on "appropriateness" might be just as likely to say its appropriate.
Questions 1 and 2 might be better answered with another option - yes, but change the representation to one that humanizes the Aztec.
Quit wasting money on this!
Ramona Perez has given a great talk about this effort many times and she has more insight than anyone else on campus. She has affirmed that this is not an issue for descendants of the Aztecs, in fact it is consistently

Rather than considering the symbol of the Aztec warrior an insult, he should be looked at as an homage to a great people. It speaks to their strength that we, as a university, seek to have them as our representative.
Regarding the task force to investigate and provide recommendations, I thought that SDSU spent money some time ago to do this research. And, those recommendations were implemented to make sure that our representation was appropriate and true to Aztec history.
Removing The Aztec Moniker is another effort of PC legicide.
Removing the Warrior makes perfect sense. Removing "usage of weapons that connote barbaric representation" is literally misrepresenting Aztecs. Their sole education system was based on training soldiers. This controversy is conflating issues involving indigenous rights in the US and in doing so, misrepresents Aztec culture. I do howeverstrongly support more connections to the local Kumeyaay bands.
Replace the weapon/spear and use the Conch Shell Trumpet instead.
Representation as an Aztec is not culturally sensitive. We must follow suit with the likes of the other college teams changing with the times
Research done the last time was very important. The removal of the cartoon-like image of Monty was very appropriate. The committee traveled to interview ancestors of the Aztecs. They were happy to have the human and realistic representations. They were very appreciative that their heritage wasnâ€™t being forgotten.
Resolution 1 has two components...keeping the human representation which I'm ok with - but I'm not in favor of using the spears & weapons.
Resolution 2 seems to "persuade" the continuing usage of the Aztec moniker.
retire the use of "mascot" and simply say "symbol of Aztec Pride"
San Diego State Aztecs and the Aztec Warrior are not cartoonish, and do not carry negative connotations for many San Diegans. We certainly have much more critical issues to tackle than this one.
San Diego State needs to get up to speed with the rest of the nation that is moving away from using a people as their mascot. I strongly agree with getting rid of the mascot and I am also an alumni and I feel our perspective is not being covered by the media and other outlets.
Savagery is part of the game. What does "Lions", "Panthers" or others are symbols of?
SDSU and the athletics department in particular are synonymous with the Aztec moniker. Great effort has been made over the years to maintain a respectful and historically accurate depiction of the Aztec culture, and I see ZERO reason that should change.
SDSU as a leading institution with proud alumni should take heed and be exemplary in its leadership by rewriting its History when it comes to our philanthropic mission. A compromise is critical when sensitivities are at stake (remove reminders of ancestral abuse and violence suffered as it has affected indigenous cultures) therefore restoration is vital of a Nations honor, dignity and identity.
SDSU continues to use Native American images and characters only because of a sleight of hand, a trick: No Aztecs in the US. It's time to join the rest of the country and up our mascot. Other schools have done it, there is
SDSU faculty, staff and students are Aztecs for Life and this is important to us. Aztecs were warriors and so are we. We have tried to make the Aztec moniker as "true to life" as possible and I don't think we should replace it.
SDSU has a long and proud history connected to the Aztecs. It celebrates what is best about Aztec culture and does so with respect. To remove that or even redefine it comes with great risk to our students, to our reputation in the community and our recognition nationally. Few of the voices that want them removed have much involvement in the larger life of SDSU or are thinking for the long-term.
SDSU has been know as Aztecs since University was founded. Keep Aztec name and educate campus and community on the history of Aztecs in San Diego.
SDSU has far more serious places to spend time, effort, and money on than this. Let's help our students matriculate in four years without the staggering debt, for starters.
SDSU has many more pressing/important issues to address--faculty compensation, class sizes, diversity, leadership, physical plant conditions, etc., etc.

SDSU has the opportunity to be a leading voice in social justice by standing firmly against appropriating
SDSU honors the Aztec name and the Aztec Warrior! The honor is mutually reinforcing of the good in each!
SDSU is behind the times and needs to catch up to other universitys and professional level teams that have rid themselves of misappropriated use of cultural identities. Changing the mascot will show the community that SDSU values cultural diversity, and listens to the voices of marginalized communities who have also expeienced
SDSU moniker is honoring the Aztec heritage not demeaning them. Also, if the Viejas community thought SDSU was being disrespectful to Indian culture they would not have sponsored and put their name on Viejas Arena on
SDSU needs a new mascot.
SDSU needs to put more thought and effort into getting rid of half of the unnecessary Assoc. Vice Presidents
SDSU should completely disengage from any reference to the Aztecs. Though I agree with Resolution 2 creating the task force I totally disagree with creating an education component in relation to Aztec identity. As an institution we should have nothing to do with Aztecs
SDSU should keep the Aztec Warrior as long as the Aztec Warrior continues to be displayed in a positive,
SDSU should keep the name "Aztecs" & the human representation of the Aztec Warrior because I cannot imagine a scenario where a mascot/suit would not culturally appropriate Aztec culture in order to be clearly identifiable. However, research should be done to avoid any further acts of cultural appropriation, & perhaps SDSU could hire folks representative of the culture to educate & be respectful.
SDSU should retire the Aztec Warrior and either return to our original mascot - the wampus cat - or adopt a non-offensive San Diego-specific mascot. The appropriation of Indigenous culture on this campus is not dissimilar to the presence of Confederate statues on other campuses, or of buildings named after slaveholders or white supremacists, all of which create a hostile learning environment.
SDSU values diversity and being a forward looking creative institution. Racial stereotypes do not represent what SDSU stands for.
SDSU's identity as Aztecs provides recognition of a culture in the Americas that predates European influence. The Senate's Resolution calling for the purge of all Aztec references on campus, including art work, seems oddly
SDSU's use of the Aztec moniker aims to honor the resilience and "fighting" spirit of the Aztec culture.
Several studies have been published that link mascots to the perpetuation of negative stereotypes and the continuity of the Aztec obscures real Native Americans (particularly Kumeyaay) and tribal nations of California. It also creates an unwelcoming environment for Native American faculty and students.
Simple solution: organize a cluster hire of twelve professors of all ranks who are experts on Meso America, Mexico, etc--were SDSU to be a center of true research of the pre-contact Americas, as it once was, it would make sense for us to name ourselves this way. But the skull-headress crap has to go. Utterly ridiculous in the
Stop being too Politically Correct. We are the SDSU Aztecs!!!
Stop screwing with the legacy of this University. When you can provide one individual related to a Aztec Warrior who is offended by the moniker and the mascot, then you can whine about. THEN you can be offended
Take a stand on the issue And stop wasting time and $$
Taking away "Aztec" from our 400,000 Aztec for Life Alumni would be extremely damaging. It would also damage the heritage of indigenous Aztec culture by removing a large & proud celebration of it.
Taking away the Aztec Identity takes away an opportunity for all of us to teach our community how to honor past cultures in an appropriate way.
Task forces and committees, as created in the usual way, are essentially undemocratic options. The administrators or other entities who select them inevitably rig them, deliberately or not, in ways to favor particular outcomes. Case in point: the advisory and search committees for the new SDSU president who is in
Thank you for addressing this difficult issue. I do feel that the school has moved far beyond the moniker and it is time to move forward.
Thank you for allowing us a space to participate in this conversation.

Thank you for being involved in this important discussion. As an alumni and faculty member I STRONGLY urge this committee to recommend that we retire the mascot and moniker. If leadership starts here, why are we so far behind other universities and professional sports teams? Sometimes being a leader means making a decision
Thank you for creating this survey and undertaking this challenging task. It's long overdue, and I look forward to SDSU finding a wonderful new mascot and moniker.
Thank you for exploring the inadvertently racist connotations of a school mascot as a parody of Native american
Thank you for tackling this difficult and contentious issue! It's clear that many alums hate the idea of changing the mascot but popular opinion does not determine whether something is morally right or wrong.
Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important issue. I think that the current mascot should be kept in its current form because to me it portrays the University and the Aztecs as a strong group. Many students and alumni are proud to call themselves Aztecs for Life. It is my opinion that our mascot is a positive representative of our University and would like to see it continue.
Thank you for your dedication to addressing this matter.
Thanks for asking!
The "Aztec" has been our noted symbol for over 100 years. Retain it with pride.
The appeals to pathos of those who want to retire the Aztec Warrior are conversation-stoppers... intentionally so. Disagree and you are branded a heartless racist. Thanks for asking our opinion.
The Aztec ancient civilization is one of many cultures that has influenced SDâ€™s identity. Itâ€™s impor to be mindful of bringing the positive aspects of the culture forward in our identity as a community. What a great opportunity for further education on so many levels: history, community, diversity
The Aztec are being portrayed as brave strong warriors not as barbaians.
The Aztec branding and symbolism educates, creates awareness, unity, pride, and discussion amongst the students and community on the Aztec civilization and culture.
The Aztec civilization represents a valid symbol of historic value and a worthy identity for San Diego State University to honor by association. War symbols should be discarded to avoid trivializing the symbolism or appearing to support a violence prone culture. Retain the wholesome symbols (Aztec Calendar and art).
The Aztec culture was barbaric from all reports I have seen. I associate the warrior as a fit student with a conch shell and I support that moving forward. If eliminating the student Aztec Warrior will end this debate, then I think it's negotiable. If eliminating the warrior just fuels the debate, then keep him.
The Aztec empire lasted for only 100 years. It developed a culture of wealth and bloodlust. Hundreds were sacrificed to appease the gods; including children in times of drought, as their tears were thought to bring rain. By comparison, the SDSU Aztec warrior is rather benign and does not denigrate a people group, which thankfully, no longer exist. As a Native American, I have no problem with Monty
The Aztec is a respectful, historically-accurate portrayal of a strong ancient civilization. It is not a charicature or cartoonish representation of the Aztec people. But dialogue through a task force for recommendations is
The Aztec is honorable and reasonable.
The Aztec is not 0ffending any indian tribe since the Aztec tribe is no longer in existence. As a life-time alumni, I feel strongly that we continue to use this Aztec moniker.
The Aztec is part of the SDSU history and brings the University together. It is not portrayed in an offensive manner and has been removed from University promotion almost entirely.
The Aztec mascot and moniker should be retired in favor of one that is more culturally mindful. Despite the history of the mascot and name, the ancestors of Aztecs, primarily chicano/chicana populations, continue to struggle in higher education achievement, pay, and resources. Until we are able to serve them appropriately, the
The Aztec mascot is part of SDSU; if students don't like it then they should not have come to this school in the first place. Our Aztecs are strong and perservering, nothing for anyone to be offended by

The Aztec mascot is used to represent our school, and in now way have we provided a negative image of the Aztec. If anything, having the Aztec Warrior, we are showing we believe the Aztec Warrior to be a strong and prominent for our University.
The Aztec moniker and mascot are symbols of pride and spirit at SDSU. There is no misunderstanding of their intent and purpose. The symbolism does not spark conversation in public about the negativity some seem to
The Aztec moniker and usage of symbols has brought more people together as students/faculty/staff/alumni than has forced people apart. To take away a school's identity and brand recognition based on a non-Aztec person's personal belief is shameful and unnecessary.
The Aztec moniker and warrior are not cultural appropriations or discriminatory, bur celebratory of a successful
The Aztec moniker is incredibly problematic, and despite its history, now is time for the university to move forward beyond this anachronistic moniker. At MINIMUM, the deeply problematic human representation should be retired with immediate effect, as the most egregious element of the misappropriation of the Aztec moniker.
The Aztec moniker should DEFINITELY be kept! I am VERY proud of it and see absolutely nothing dishonorable or dishonoring about it! I am indifferent about the human representation.
The Aztec moniker, human representation and story is history and you DO NOT and SHOULD NOT change history because people are emotional and offended. It is a accurate portrayal of the life of Aztecs. SDSUs history should not be changed and loose all our identity.
The Aztec moniker, mascot and other names and symbols will remain offensive obstacles to SDSU's reputation until they are all replaced.
The Aztec name and representation are respectful of the history of the Aztec culture . There is no logical reason to change the mascot. To do so in response to a very small minority reflects very badly on the university, which is intended to provide an excellent education to students from our region, while providing a forum for discussion
The Aztec name and warrior are not offensive. The effort to remove them is coming from primarily from one individual who seems to have nothing better to do than try and stir up controversy. I have taught here for 40 years and have been proud of our mascot and name.
The Aztec name should focus on its philosophical thought and social achievements. Anthropologists have also documented Aztec culture achievements in agriculture, transportation, economy, architecture, arts, and political institutions â€“that point to the creative and collaborative capability of humankind, and of the universal inclination to find transcendent meaning to human life..
The Aztec name, logo, mascot, and identity should be retired and replaced by an accurate and true representation of San Diego. Preferably a non-human/non-cultural symbol such as a native animal that can be
The Aztec people were highly intelligent! While there may be heritage that goes back to Aztec people, there is not a specific people who identify as Aztecs in modernity. The spears were indicative of their era, why are they "barbaric?" So who are we offending? And I would be honored to have a team named after me.
The Aztec should be kept as to not confused or irritate SDSU alumni. However, future representation of the Aztecs and Aztec culture should accurately represent how the culture was, without attaching a barbaric/aggressive persona to the Aztec people and culture.
The Aztec symbol was used by the founders of this organization to represent the indomitable spirit of a culture that valued education , astronomy, sports, music, agriculture, medicine, and other academic disciplines. It is unfortunate that we have lost sight of the lessons found in that history.
The Aztec symbolism conveys a powerful message, exemplifying strength and honor. The use of the Aztec moniker does not disparage the Aztec culture. It has been a representation of San Diego State University for several decades and should continue to be the symbol.
The Aztec Warrior has been a representation of SDSU for years. We honor that name and hold respect to it. In no way shape or form is what we are doing with the mascot offensive or demeaning. If anything we are

The Aztec warrior having a spear and other weapons represents Aztec Warriors in their nature. Calling our representation of the Aztec Warrior barbaric is calling the actual Aztec Warriors barbaric. People who make this as an argument are insulting the warriors.
The Aztec Warrior is a proud and respectful representation of a culture that once existed in the Americas. I find the Aztec to represent our region in a unique way, and the Aztec to be respectful. Removing the Aztec would also influence my support for SDSU Athletics, as I would be so furious and disappointed in the University. Please do not yield to a vocal minority. Keep the Aztec Warrior!
The Aztec Warrior is a represents strength and cultural pride. I am a staff member ot SDSU and a l ifetime Alumni. The university will lose a lot of their Alumnus if they make this change!
The Aztec warrior is fine. Don't have any violent delpictions though.
The Aztec Warrior is held in high esteem. Why is it assumed that using "Aztec" as a moniker or having a human respresentation of the Aztec warrior being disrespectful. These things are just as important to SDSU as an institution as is their high quality of the educational experience
The Aztec warrior is NOT a derogatory symbol, but one of Pride for Aztecs. This is no different than any military ad/symbols and/or representation of military service personnel in our current culture.
The Aztec Warrior represents a strong brave individual from the advanced Aztec Empire & is part of the heritage of the university & Pacific region. If a U.S. Marine was a mascot, would that be eradicated because of the recent child pornography and drug rings?
The Aztecs practiced human sacrifice. That is reason enough to ditch this identity.
The Aztecs represent a strong and dominant civilization with a fierce and competitive spirit. SDSU should be proud to have the Aztec Warrior as their mascot.
The aztecs were barbaric in their rituals but there is more to their way of life. I do not believe the Aztec symbol should be removed as a whole, there could be some improvement as to the education of who they were. Why remove the mascot when it is a representation of San Diego State University, I am an alumni and identify myself as an SDSU Aztec and in no way take offense.
The Azteec name is essential, we are honoring a culture Cotez desroyed.
The current representation of the Aztec Warrior is that of a strong proud warrior, I would be VERY disappointed to see this taken away!
The entire adoption of the Aztecs and like names (Zura, Tenochca, etc.) was one of convenience and image, both of which are unfortuante reasons to tie oneself to a culture and people who were far removed from San Diego and the local indigenous culture of Southern California. This is a ripe opportunity to remedy that error and come up with a moniker and mascot that reflects better on who we are.
The fact that this even is up for debate in freaking 2018 is shameful and horrible. Regarding resolution 2, I disgaree that there should be any form of Aztec representation used at all, but agree that the task force should educate students and community about aztec culture and why this use is wrong and needs to stop.
The Fighting Irish of Notre Dame University is taken as an honor by the once badly treated Irish immigrants to the USA. It should be same situation here.
The happy medium is to remove the physical mascot, keep the moniker while enhancing the campus presence of education, art and culture (eg adding the descriptions of the names in the Union, i.e. Templo Mayor with the equivalent Kumeyah meaning
The human mascott is not necessary, but keeping the spirit of the Aztec moniker and symbols are central to SDSU (it should be seen in a positive light).
The human portrayal of Monty has always been positive. Whether or not the portrayal is accurate or not, there is no caricature involved.

The human representatioin of an Aztec can be historically and culturally sensitive, done in taste, and in consultation with cultural experts and a wide variety of indigenous representives. Those who identify with SDSU as Aztecs far outweigh those who are against it. The task force should meet to discuss it, but we can find a way to celebrate the identity and honor the heritage.
The human representation does not always have to be in the form of a warrior. It could be a dance group or other festive indigenous group. Needs further discussion but is relevant.
The human representation is too fraught with misconceptions and appropriation. We have and can create climate that honors the Aztec culture through education and guidelines for respectful use.
The individual pushing for much of this change, Ozzie, is not teaching at SDSU this semester. I hope that the university brings him back. I don't agree with much of what he says, but he makes students think!
The issue for me is the demeaning aspect of the mascot. Associating SDSU with the name, history, or tradition of the Aztecs does not seem offensive. There is an unmistakeable air of nobility, for example, in the Donal Hard
The mascot and the spear are not the same issue. Furthermore, the Senate Resolution draws upon an MA thesis with significant factual errors. The University Senate needs to separate the signficant mascot issue from the highly flawed thesis and from Monge's problematic conduct.
The mascot is racist, offensive, and in violation of our core values. At conferneces I a regularly asked by colleagues at other universities why we cannot get rid of it. For a campus so concerned about being taken seriously, getting rid of it should be a no-brainer.
The mascot is viewed as an honor to Aztec culture, not disparage it. Maybe those offended could suggest how the mascot representation may be improved upon to enhance/honor/respect their culture from their
The name and mascot is a great tradition we have had that represents the great qualities of Aztecs and it should stay in that manner
The name Aztecs and the representation IS the way that I think of SDSU. Anything else would diminish my
The name Aztecs has become an integral part of the identity of the campus, well beyond only the athletic aspects. It appears in the name of campus buildings and the awards given to faculty and alumni
The name has a strong tradition and in combination with a strong educational initiative, should be kept. Mascots are silly. They serve no purpose. He can go.
The SDSU Aztec branding is a great asset to the university. Generations of alumni and current students and staff strongly associate themselves with the Aztec identity. Leave the Aztec branding alone.
The SDSU Torrey Pines is my recommendation. Student dressed as a Torrey Pine tree.
The Senate (which represents University constituents) passed a resolution to retire the current mascot. We should abide by this democratic vote. People are not mascots, and to profit from indigenous people in this way is racist and colonialist. Our students come here to be educated, not mis-educated. The mascot is on the wrong
The Senate resolution uses language that in itself is offensive; there is nothing barbaric about the weaponry of the people of the past. No time was taken to really think through the intention. Ultimately, the Senate moved forward without a true voice of faculty. I am not in favor of the retention of the warrior but am in favor of appropriately honoring Aztec culture and in retaining the moniker
The Senate resolutions are guilty of the same ethnocentricism they allege for the Aztec symbology.
The spear does not bother me.
The statue stands as an art work. A plaque with information about it would be a nice educational touch
The symbol is not derogitory on any level, if anything it is empowering. Keep it. Stop listening to the vocal minority and let majority influence the decision. Those who are offended need not attend here.
The term Aztec represents a rich culture with many sophistocated acheivements, seems appropriate for SDSU. Does the current SDSU mascot represent a warrior? That represents strenth? Also seems appropriate for SDSU.
The term has been associated with SDSU for decades and should continue. Not as adamant about the warrior.
The time has passed for this symbol and its associated imagery.

The time is right to make changes. What changes is the question. Have no problem with name, but think the human representation of the Aztec warrior should go. There are other Aztec symbols that could be adopted. No problem with Monty award, or building names that are Aztec. The committee/task force to make recommendations is an excellent idea, but must have more than a token number of students
The University has adoped the Aztec Warrior out of respect for the Aztec Warriors and the Aztec culture. SDSU should continue to use the Aztec moniker.
The University has many many more important issues. Changing Monty is a distraction. Focus on Mission Valley
The use of 'the Aztecs' and the Aztec Warrior is racist. Get rid of it.
The works of anthropologist Inga Clendinnen make it pretty clear that the members of the Aztec civilization would not have objected to the memorialization of their culture through the SDSU mascot. Since their religion sought immortality through the representation of their fierceness of their people, including ritual human sacrifice, it is pretty clear that they wanted to never be forgotten.
There are better and more important things for the University to apply this much effort to. The student representatives voted in April 17 to keep the mascot and identity, they spoke, they are our priority, let's listen. I feel SDSU uses the identity with respect and honor to the culture and no offense is intended, only pride is
There are many more historically accurate ways to represent Aztec culture. The human representation is inaccurate and offensive.
There are many representation of the Aztec culture that could be used instead of the current one to represent
There are NO "Aztec" people currently alive anymore... This is equivalent to saying the term "Vikings" offends people of Norway, Sweden, or Denmark. SDSU and its admin, faculty, staff, students, and alumni highly respects the term "Aztecs," the culture, the naming of our buildings, and have never presented it as derogatory.
There are NO living descendents of Aztecs. They were a great people, established a phenomenal civilization, and SDSU honors them by keeping their names and language alive. It is not making fun of them. It is not cultural appropriation. We HONOR the great and powerful Aztecs!
There are plenty of examples of gross characterizaions of cultures, such as the Cleveland Indians, etc. In OUR case, however, I do not feel that we mock or denigrate the Aztec culture with the use of a human mascot, who does not act clownish nor violent, if he did then that would be something to question. It is my understanding that a person must know the history before becoming the mascot.
There are plenty of mascot choices that don't invoke other cultures. Please learn how to re-brand SDSU with a more consciencous and thoughtful selection. This will be a valuable educational stance to improve SDSU's academic reputation. Thanks for asking for our input.
There are so many reasons to keep and be proud of the Aztec moniker. I have heard no reasoned or logical explanation for why the moniker is or could be offensive to any person or group.
There is a strong possibility that the outrage is merely a Russian bot, created to stir confusion around the issue. This survey will show that Faculty and Staff do not care about the mascot's possible offensiveness unless others are offended. A survey of individuals associated with real life Aztecs should be surveyed.
There is absolutely nothing "barbaric" or offensive about the Aztec warrior! The Aztec warrior represents a strong fighting spirit, which is something to be proud of! Stop this unnecessary and tiresome political
There is no reason to make a change
There is no reason, other than "tradition" (which has been used to support many out-dated and/or offensive ideas and practices), to use a group of humans as a mascot - and there are many reasons not to do this, especially when you are appropriating/stereotyping that group in potentially harmful ways. Other schools (Stanford, for ex) have retired similar mascots without any longterm harm.
There is nothing negative regarding the Aztec identity or the warrior representation that should offend anyone. The Aztec symbol is both positive and meaningful. I take great pride in being one with its spitit. The San Diego community has long identified with this tradition. I personally think that those that think of it as racist or demaening have seldom been to an athletic event.

There ought to be another way to respectfully represent the amazing culture of the Aztecs without portraying them as savage warriors. let's ask the descendants of Aztecs.
There should be more/better education regarding the Aztec culture and identity. Many people think it's a dead culture which is wrong. I was born/raised in Mexico, but not raised within the Aztec or Nahuatl community. I donâ€™t speak the Nahua language either. Being Hispanic does not mean I get to speak or feel offended/proud for issues regarding the Aztec identity or any other Mexican ethnic group.
This has needed to change for a long time. We have to do something
This idea is political correctness run amuck
This is a clearcut case of appropriation. There is no feasible association between the Aztecs and this region or institution. It is past time to rectify this.
This is a fictionalized mascot that has a strong connection to the community. It has been discussed and to continue to rehash it does nothing to further the cause. It is a great symbol of pride.
This is a minority making decisions for the majority.
This is a non-issue that is not even, apparently supported by most Native American Students. There is no reason to change the Aztec moniker. This is as an SDSU alumni and long time faculty member.
This is a pointless witch-hunt over a non-issue raised by people with no actual ties to the Aztec people that have chosen to be offended on behalf of another group, who by the way has not expressed any concern to begin with.
This is a proud and respectful honoring & celebration of the heritage and grandeur of the Aztec nation, who SDSU has proudly recognized as the patron and symbol of the University. In 2001, internationally respected Aztec authorities from UNAM signaled their approval & appreciation of this usage. The Mexican people, direct descendants of the Aztec, are proud of this recognition.
This is a ridiculous survey
This is a silly waste of time.
this is actually ridiculous that this got this far. I came to SDSU because I wanted to be an Aztec and it is not fair to change that priveledge on a student who pays 20+ thousand dollars to this school. You will lose alumni support and student support. you guys suck and i wish i had gone somewhere else that wasnâ€™t so sensitive
This is akin to asking me if I agree with just a little hate or a little racism because it only offends the Native American students. I am shocked at how easy our principles of community are dismissed when we percieve that there is just a small group impacted by our actions. Human represenation of FirstNations people as caricatures is
This is an exercise that has been undertaken in the past. We should focus on how the University has implemented the findings from past thorough explorations of this topic. SDSU does a very good job of honoring the Aztec brand and addressed the questionable brands some time ago. Let's embrace an amazing civilization and ensure we respectfully(yet factually) inform all.
This is my preference at this time. We are very invested in being Aztecs. It will hurt our chances to expand. I imagine our alums are very unhappy with this. However, if a majority of students want this change, we should begin to move in that direction. I will continue to support the university regardless of what we call ourselves.
This is one overheated topic. Look. Aztecs have nothing to do with the area, so it always seemed an odd choice. On the other hand, the politically correct arguments about this bore me silly (St. Ozzie's MA thesis is riddled with errors, btw). Retire the thing and be done with it. Move on.
This is silly and waste of human effort that could be used to cure cancer, fix the environment, or shelter homless, but not otherwise useful.
This is so obvious to me. The only argument against these changes is that alumni will be upset and give less money. If money is an argument, then fine. But that's the only argument in favor of keeping things the way they are. Be the goddamn Eagles or Panthers and be done with this.
This is to me a group of misunderstood minority represenative. This has been the model and mascot for over 100 years. This issue was brought up several years ago and vetted and agreed to. It seems that this is a new group revisiting an old issue. If not why don't they make the mascot a taffic cone maybe that wont' offend

This is way overdue!!!!
THIS ISSUE IS A SILLY WASTE OF TIME AND RESOURCES AND SHOULD BE PUT TO REST.
This issue is complex & nuanced. The moniker must not be dismissed as racist based on the slurs of a small group indoctrinated by a disingenuous lecturer.
This matter has been voted upon and resolved. The Native American community has weighed in stating it was not offensive. It should no longer be an issue.
This nonsense is a giant waste of time and resources. Our energies should be spent on hiring more faculty and providing the best possible education to our students.
This notion comes up about ever 5-6 years. What a waste of time and resources.
This opportunity to shift away from cultural appropriation would set a great national precedent for an issue that is widespread and a factor for other institutions and businesses.
This survey seems entirely misleading and unnecessary. The Senate has spoken yet this seems like wanting to contradict that decision.
This type of dehumanization of indigenous peoples may have been unintentional but is extremely deleterious.
This whole thing is silly and must stop. This is political correctness completely out of control. There must be better things to do and worry about than this.
This will be changed eventually. Why not be part of the solution instead of clinging to old fashioned ideas about
Though I do not think the Aztec name is offensive, other CSU schools seem to use animals/insects from their particular region as part of their moniker. Should the university decide to change the Aztec name, we should consider animals/insects that are native to our region.
To equate the Aztec with â€œbarbaricâ€ today is ridiculous. The Aztec people overcame adversities present during that time. This is what the Aztec community shares. A bond that represents communal support, persistency, strength. Remove this symbol and you remove the value of what has been the goal of this
To me being an Aztec, represents a celebration of diversity. I am proud to be an Aztec and honor what the Aztec spirit and the culture means to us.
Tribal political correctness on steroids.
Truth & Reconciliation are needed. With all due respect, we need to drop the Aztec moniker and human representation of the Aztec Warrior. There is no middle ground that would ameliorate this being an obstacle to focusing on the core educational mission of the University. Lets learn from the past, and move together towards a better future for our predecessors, ourselves, and future SDSUers.
Ugly mascot
Universities are built on forward thinking AND traditions! As an alum & current employee, I strongly request that you please leave our TRADITIONAL Aztec mascot ALONE!!!
Unless it can be done in a way that the descendants of Aztecs (everybody of Mexican ancestry) think honors their ancestry instead of parodying it... The opinion of students/parents/alumni of Mexican ancestry should be
Unlike other Native American mascot controversies, this one involves a historic culture and not an existing tribe. It seems to me that as long as the representation of the Aztec Warrior is historically accurate, the use of "Aztecs" is, if anything, complementary and a recognition of a very powerful and successful people who conquered most of Mexico in a very short period of time.
Until we hear from tribal councils and tribal confederations, the move by the university senate is still another permutation on BIA -- Batting Indians Around, where nonIndians decide where Indian people shall live, what they shall wear, where they shall go to school, and in this case, what shall be insulting.
Use has shown respect to the Aztecs, not disrespect.
Use of spears or weapons were not barbaric. These people CAPTURED victims in war and did not kill. Weaponry was also used for getting food supply. Whoever wrote up and made decisions on the questionair
Very proud of the Aztec logo
Warrior, arrows, and other symbols used by SDSU do not denote barbarism to me. To me they symbolize

We are a proud school and our alumni exemplifies the same. We are above many other universities nation wide on many education endeavors, and therefore feel that we should make this last step towards being a knowledgeable, inclusive community in order to support many of our Native current and prospective students and initiatives to continue improving who we are and what we provide to students.
We are an embarrasment to ourselves. "Leadership starts here" is false unless our administration eliminates this out-dated and offensive mascot and its symbology. In my 32 years on this campus we have never taken the moral road. I am humiliated to say I work at SDSU.
We are and always will be Aztecs, and the human representation is perfect and should not be altered in any
We are better than this racist image. Let us move on and do better as well.
We are the Aztecs, Aztec proud removing Monty will take away from what i feell
We can develop different representation/images of Aztec culture to glorify their accomplishments rather than just using one mascot/image (warrior). These images can be on merchandise as well as during games to highlight Aztec culture (that is, holistic representation of Aztecs). Part of the sales proceeds should be contributed to supporting marginalized (indigenous) communities around the world.
We can do better than this. Thanks!
We can keep the Aztec Warrior but does not have to use spears or weapons.
We did this exact same thing 15 years ago. There's no reason to rehash this every decade just because one side didn't get their way. Further, this university relies heavily on financial support from alumni who will desert us if we abandon the Aztec moniker. We ignore them at our peril.
We don't need a task force; what a royal waste of resources. Just do the right thing and change the mascot
We have a boatload of more important things to spend our time on than this
We have a responsibility to listen to - and appropriately respond to - those whose culture(s) have historically been - and continue to be - misappropriated.
We honor the historical Mexican identity of our region and many of its people by using the name Aztecs. The Aztecs are at the center of the way Mexican identity has been constructed, and they are at the center fo the largest city in North America & a country of 127 million people which invented civilization, mathematics, writing, and agriculture in the Americas -- undiminshed by our use of Aztecs.
We jeopardize alienating generations of proud SDSU Aztecs if we change the moniker. The current controversy was headed by one individual and it was based on flawed and biased research. I would place heavy emphasis on the input from the many Native American tribes in the San Diego region. I believe they feel SDSU has been respectful to the Aztec name and support its continuation.
We must get rid of the mascot in its entirety, it is an embarrassment that SDSU traditions rely on on their racist
We need more understanding and education of the connection between the Aztecs and SDSU, it's not just a name! Why are we called the Aztecs? Reduce any truly offensive images and the rest should be explained in our
We need to change with the times, face up to our institutional racism, and make changes to show that we are-- and plan to be-- better than we were.
we need to keep the Aztec warrior, this has been an honored tradition and symbolizes the strong, fierce, they work as teams, smart-known for impressive logistical feats achieved with the help of innovative land reclamation techniques, agricultural advancements, and storage-based infrastructural facilities; isn't this the basis of our
We need to keep the Aztecs as a symbol of SDSU, just as Irish, Spartans, Trojans and numerous Indian names associated with various NCAA schools
We need to move beyond this politically polarized environment. Someone must have the courage to stand up and say that this is nonsense. The reality is that it was a warrior culture and we are using that spirit as a motivator for sports, etc. Yeah, let's us become the red and black unicorns or the pink bunnies. Wait a minute
We should aim for respect of the ancient Aztec culture. Maybe even look for qualities from the Aztec culture that we can embrace and include in our university mission. Anything that demeans this culture should be
We should be proud of showcasing Aztec culture and history.

We should embrace our role as an insitution of higher learning and further our affiliation by seeking to educate and inform about the Aztec culture. An Aztec cultural museum should be developed to further this effort.
We should have a costume!
We should NOT be using human depictions as a Mascot or for promotional purposes. It is dehumanizing and wrong! If a few are offended then we must respect that. Slavery and women's oppression were once OK and people loved it but we an a nation knew better. Rise above this SDSU.
We take great pride in the traditions and culture of San Diego State Aztecs. We should absolutely represent the culture and traditions of the fallen Aztecs in a proper manner and hold these ideals in the highest regard. Using the emblems, moniker, Aztec paraphenalia is all to display honor and pride and if represented properly there should be no issues with upholding the century old traditions.
We tried this 14 years ago. It was a bad Idea then and it is an even WORSE idea now. We ARE Aztecs and will forever BE AZTECS! There is ZERO racist imagery and the warrior is a component of EVERY society. The history was thoroughly studied for the current mascot and images. Don't travel down this stupid road again.
We went through this for Stanford University, of which I am an alum. It was clear the "Stanford Indian" had to be retired. The students voted on what they wanted instead and, perhaps as a joke, wound up with a tree (the Palo Alto). It seemed to me that there was understanding of the necessity for the retirement and a minimum of
we will be more thoughtful of culture when we take on another symbol for warriors
What a massive waste of time this is...It represents how out of touch faculty are with the community and our many stakeholders. My goodness we look like a bunch of PC ninnies!
What about the Minnesota Vikings? The Boston Celtics? Stop wasting time on this! This is PC bullshit!
What do the Native American representatives think? How would they like to see it changed? Change it to whatever they feel would be an appropriate substitution.
What does any of the above have to do with the educational purpose of a university, if that's what SDSU wants
What is the COST of making this change, and how will all of the changes be financed? What is the impact this will have on donations to the university?
Whatever Native Americans want should be respected regardless of the Mexican heritage of Aztecs. It seems the Native Americans are particularly upset with the Aztec logo/name. We don't need to perpetuate such divisions -- other sports teams have faced national attention over this. Let's change and have a San Diego
What's next, removal of all reference to "the fighting Irish" WRT Notre Dame?
When I came to SDSU as a student from a different country a few years ago, the Aztec moniker inspired me to learn about the history of the Aztecs and Latin America in general. Today, I continue to learn about different cultures around the world as a professor. We do NEED to get away from any barbaric representation of the Aztec culture and develop more focus on the educational component.
When I used to go to Aztec football games years back, the opening to the games was truly spectacular. A lot of this had to do with the Aztec warrior running onto the field. For the life of me, in the context of a football game (a violent sport) I cannot see how anyone could take umbrage at the representation of an Aztec warrior. No one makes fun of him, everyone thought how cool he was.
When visiting Mexico recently, I saw many instances where "Aztec" was used including the name of a stadium. Using Aztecs as a moniker and human representation, is a proud representation and honor.
Whether Aztec or something else, the representation should be respectful
While I feel that it is entirely appropriate to discuss and consider how the university uses cultural symbols, I feel the use of Aztec symbols is completely appropriate. I think it helps remind people of the local tribal cultural, and binds the university more closely to its local roots. I am all for keeping the symbols as they are.
While I think it is time to retire the Aztec moniker and the human representation of the Aztec Warrior, I do not think this has to include the process of changing building names. All or nothing efforts usually fail.

While it is always useful to have discussions, I personally don't understand what the big fuss is about. Our current representations honor & celebrate this remarkably rich indigenous culture. As long as we stylize around authentic/accurate portrayals (as opposed to derogatory caricatures), I think we naturally encourage interest in
While it was an accepted practice in the past, and in fact was thought to honor perceived Aztec culture, it's not an accepted practice in modern society.
While there may be indigenous people of Mexico that carry past-down genes from the Aztec empire, there are no Aztecs. There is no class of people to insult by this depiction. If it does not interfere with fund raising for University priorities, what value is the change, other than a new revenue stream for Aztec shops? We can project what the costs would be to re-brand the University.
Why are we going through this again? What good is saying no if it keeps having to be readdressed every few years? How can I be an "Aztec for Life" if you take away the Aztec pride? And lastly, you'll have a lot of season football ticket holders not renewing, like me. Although most faculty and the senate are not fans, they are not the
Why are we wasting money on this task force? Does the administration not notice that students' ability to fund this university is an emergency situation that requires decades of debt over student loans? What a colossal waste of money and resources! The administration should be the "adults" in these manners, but they're kowtowing to a bunch of idiots and spending others' money to do so.
Why is the university doing a survey and voting on this? This should have been resolved a long time ago. An overwhelming majority of people including students and alumni agreed to keep the moniker and the human
With approximately 200,000 alumni who are "Aztecs for Life," it would be a serious mistake to dismantle what has been existing for years. There are no Aztecs that live in the U.S., to my knowledge, and thus we are not offending anyone. Regarding the human representation, most schools have mascots of one type or another. What would we do? Get rid of all the Montys, the, the statues, the awards?
Would rather see education of Aztec culture, history, and it to be considered a tribute than removal of the

If we were to have pyramids then the "Aztec" name would be fitting, however SDSU looks like it was built from a Spanish monastery..in Europe not Mexico. My issue is that we should have a moniker that matches our campus image or add something that would match the word "Aztec". However, Aztec is good enough for now since it is a bold sounding name that can represent any student's fierceness.
#Aztecs4Life
#notyourmascot
Accurate education related to the Aztecs
A "no preference" option would have been good on this survey
A human mascot (a human caricature) of an Aztec that symbolizes the identity of the school and yet, that very mascot resides in a place that is modeled after Spanish missionaries. Really?
A mascot has always been used as a means of glorifying an object/person/subject. No one would want there organization named after something that they were trying to demoralize...
A mascot/moniker is something chosen as a source of strength and pride. When we say we are aztecs it is said with both, not with bigotry filled hearts.
A mythological aztec doesnâ€™t have anything to do with the spirit of the university. Our mascot, at this point, should be the â€œcompliance officersâ€
a survey does not foster an educational dialogue.
â€œAztecs for lifeâ€ is a philosophy that applies to all SDSU students, alumni, and staff/faculty. Ruining this for the sake of not â€œoffendingâ€ people who have no personal connection to Aztecs is ridiculous and a waste of
â€œTraditionâ€ is rarely sufficient justification.
Absolutely disgraceful to get rid of the Aztec. Would consider transferring if went through.
Across the nation, many schools proudly cast cultural mascots as something they idolize. To consider any disrespect towards indigenous people is not warranted as the alumni and current students have nothing but pride in the Aztec moniker, and itâ€™s something we hope to carry with us for the rest of our lives.
After attending SDSU for four years, I have come to appreciate the Aztec not only for what it stands for our school, but the historical and cultural significance as well
Again, I think it would be a good idea to keep the name, but rather than have a human be the mascot, perhaps pick an animal or other symbol that will still be considered part of the Aztec culture.
Although I believe education about the Aztecs would be beneficial, I do not think it makes up for the injustices of using the Aztec moniker. However if the mascot is changed, I do think SDSU should provide education on the Aztec to compensate for University's past.
Although I believe the Aztec symbol is culturally insensitive for a multitude of reasons (for one, aztecs didn't even call themselves aztecs...) However, there are sometimes things we can't change. For example, did not one think of the sick irony of having missionary style architecture (student union) and an aztec symbol. It's offensive but are we gonna tear down the student union? Probably not.
Although I do understand that some may say that the mascot is "appropriating" Aztec culture, but I find it in good taste. If all mascots are done this way, it's refreshing and respectful. For example, look at the Minnesota Vikings in the NFL. No one clamors to have that changed as it doesn't disrespect anyone. I'm Filipino & would love to have a mascot representing my culture if it was respectful.
Although people may be offended by the Aztecs mascot, the Aztec Warrior has been a unifying and uniting figure in the San Diego region. I am proud to be an Aztec and am proud that our mascot represents a great culture.
AMIND class
AMIND141 was a great class for gaining introductory information about Indigenous People and their history.
Any physical representative of the aztec needs to be of appropriate ethnicity
APA stated that itâ€™s unethical to have any culture represented as a mascot. â€œMontyâ€ runs round shirtless with a conch shell, we are disprecpting Native American culture

Apparently the Aztec for life thing was a lie. Changing the mascot would be stupid and a great deal of students would lose respect for the school and administration
As a Chicano decedent of indigenous people of central Mexico, I support the Aztec moniker but I am reluctant on the human representation of the Aztec Warrior. I also support making a compulsory class on Aztec
As a current student at San Diego state who does not identify as indigenous, I donâ€™t think it is for me to decide whether or not there is cultural appropriation with relations to the Aztec moniker. If it is offensive to anyone within my community, I believe SDSU should rid away from using this mascot in the future.
As a descendant of Aztec natives, I don't find anything wrong with keeping the Aztec name and mascot as one to represent us. However, I strongly think that further education related to the Aztecs would be beneficial, especially for those who don't understand why the Aztec mascot could potentially be problematic.
As a descendant of the Aztecs I am proud to be a San Diego Aztec now. As long as the name and image are treated in a respectful manner I support the continue usage of it.
As a descendent of the Chichimeca, I personally say that appropriation arguments against the mascot are BS.
As a first year woman of color, attending an already predominantly white institution is not the easiest thing to do. Watching the little influence that my ancestors have here be appropriated and disrespected is even more challenging. I think it's okay to keep the Aztec mascot, but get rid of the human representation, or find a way to
As a Hispanic, more specifically Mexican, I can say that the mascot is not offensive at all. In fact, I believe we should be proud of it. There is no point in changing the mascot after so many years of being the Aztecs.
As a junior, I enjoyed seeing the Aztec mascot at football and basketball games during the two years prior to this one. The outfit was worn by Latino men and I found it to be very tasteful. However, this year the person chosen to wear the costume is a white guy and I found it to be pretty offensive and appropriating the culture, and Iâ€™m white guy. Keep the Aztec Warrior, but cast him properly.
As a latino at this school. I am overjoyed to see that san diego state has stayed true to its history and represent the Aztecs. This was all a part of Mexico, which has strong ties to aztec culture and keeping this mascot is the best way to celebrate their history here in America. I understand changing derogatory mascots to go with the times but the Aztecs and our Aztec is to be seen with pride!
As a member of the indigenous community I think itâ€™s ridiculous that people who are not of my culture telling me I am misrepresented. We love the Aztec because SDSU does not use it in a negative light and celebrates our culture. Keep our Aztec!!
As a Mexican American, I find ot offensive for my heritage and culture to be deemed a mascot. SDSU is not founded in Aztec lands; neither was it founded by Aztec descendants. I thank President Roush for leading this initiative to correct an issue that should have heen addressed from the beginning.
As a Mexican and graduate student i feel great respect for our Aztec warrior. It is a symbol that is not to be frowned upon or disrespected. It is a symbol of tenacity and virtue.
As a Mexican and someone who can trace my ancestry to the Aztecs, it fills me with pride to go to a school that has the Aztecs as the mascot. I find that this University's representation is completely respectful, and I find it hurtful when people are trying to take the mascot away, because it is something I am proud of.
As a Mexican descendant, I am proud to be an Aztec. San Diego also has a rich Hispanic and indigenous history, and should be treated with respect. More education on the history of native peoples would increase our knowledge of these issues, and further appreciate the meaning behind our school name and moniker, and treat them with care to avoid ignorant abuse of the history and its civilization
As a Mexican-American student, I feel no negative repercussions of being called an aztec I feel proud to carry my heritage to university and have it be exposed that San Diego is historically Aztlan.
As a Mexican-American, I'm proud to have the mascot of my school be an Aztec. No one cares about the Minnesota Vikings, why should we be offended by the Aztecs?
As a mixed race Student with Native American ancestors, and an Anthropology and American Indian Studies student, I value and see the respect shown to tbe Aztec Warrior.

As a multiracial student I feel no offense in the name we choose to represents ourselves with. I love the atmosphere of the games I attend. I feel proud to be called an SDSU Aztec, as a person strong Mexican heritage.
As a Native American, I am extremely upset that our school has continued to ignore the voices of indigenous people who have demanded that this mascot be changed since its adoption. It erases the Kumeyaay presence on their own land and promotes harmful stereotypes that harm our Native students. Please do not continue this
As a Native American, I am proud to be a part of SDSU as an Aztec. You people are not Native American and have no idea what you are taking about, leave the Aztec name alone and keep out school proud. Go Aztecs!
As a person of direct Mexican descent, I feel great pride in being represented by one of my ancestors. However, I would find it more adequate for the mascot to be represented as a jaguar, which was the name given to actual Aztec warriors. This for me would eliminate the feeling of the dehumanization of native people by being called a
As a student of Mexican descent, I find no offense in our current moniker. My sister who is also a fellow SDSU student shares the same sentiments. I am very proud of the identity of our student body and diversity
As a student, who is half indigenous I was pulled to SDSU for not only the amazing Business program, but also for the fact I wanted to be an Aztec. As the first person in my family to attend university, I didnâ€™t know which to choose. I have a teacher who was an Aztec. He spoke highly of what it means to be an Aztec for Life! As students we do not simply take the name, we stand to embody the Aztec.
As a third generation Aztec; My grandmother attended the Normal Street Teaching College and Both my parents carry degrees from SDSU. I was around proud to be accepted as a Aztec. My family which shares Latino decent has always upheld both the Name Aztec and Monty as symbols of ethnic pride NOT Oppression. KEEP MONTY
As a woman of Native American and Mexican descent, I feel as though the Aztec is a great way to represent our school. We are showing the Aztec in a positive light and I could not be more proud to call myself an Aztec.
As an alumni student, we all identify with the SDSU Aztec warrior. He provided inspiration for us to study hard and graduate. This issue is not all about a sports image. Save our history! He is NOT offensive!
As an American of Mexican descent, and heritage, I'm extremely proud to be a SDSU Aztec. The moniker is a representation of the Aztec pride and I believe it should not be changed.
As an American of Mexican descent, I am also from indigenous descent. I personally do not see an issue with keeping the Aztec name. San Diego was a Mexican territory at one point.
As an descendant of indigenous peoples, I do not find offense to the use of the Aztec name or like by San Diego State. Rather, I find that it is celebratory of the culture and raises more awareness of indigenous cultures.
As an Indian, I believe showing homage to native warriors is one of the few ways we still honor the indigenous
As an out of state student, I was unfamiliar with any aspect of Aztec culture. After doing research, it seems like the best option would be to adopt a less offensive mascot.
As an SDSU alum, the term â€œAztec for lifeâ€ means something special. Taking away the Aztec would be like ripping my heart out. My views regarding SDSU would change drastically if the Aztec is removed. Remove the Aztec, remove my financial support.
As an SDSU athlete I hold great pride in being an Aztec Warrior everytime I enter the pool. I know Iâ€™m fighting for a win and fighting for my school just as a warrior would.
As an SDSU student and future alumni I am proud to be represented by the strength and power of the Aztec warrior. SDSU as a community has always celebrated and cherished the Aztec name and greatly respects the heritage of the Aztec legacy. #Aztecforlife
As it stands, the Aztec mascot is offensive to groups of people. If there is no possibility for the University to comply with their concerns and display the "Aztec" in a culturally acceptable manner, then change of the mascot
As long as students are required to take a class on Nahuatl(Aztec) culture, I have no problem with the school keeping the Aztec moniker. As for the Human representation, I think a mascot/cartoon version(like SJSU's Sammie the Spartan) would be better.
As long as the mascot represents the culture of the Aztec, there should be no wrongdoing. Misinterpretation of his attire and such is the wrong part. I think he looks fine as long as thereâ€™s accuracy.

As long as we do this RESPECTFULLY and with direction from peoples of this culture, I donâ€™t see why we canâ€™t keep it. Maybe have the mascot pass down from people of this descent. Not white actors.
As somebody who has bloodlines to the Aztecs, I donâ€™t find any of this offensive. I represent it with pride and honor. Aztecs were brutal anyway so if anything, we are not representing Aztecs properly.
As someone with actual Aztec blood in my veins, I find this whole issue ridiculous.
At a time when many students at sdsu feel unsafe being on or near campus at night is this really the issue that is
At SDSU, we are Aztecs. Itâ€™s not meant to make fun of anyone, the Aztec warrior is a symbol for what we all should strive to become. Being strong, proud, and courageous is what the Aztec warrior stands for and what we
At this point its tradition. Without a football team and a with below average baseball team, the "AZTECS" are all that San Diego has left. Taking the Aztec name away from the university makes it seem as if you have attended two separate institutions. The great history and traditions that are associated with the Aztecs may not easily be transferred over if San Diego State does not keep its name.
Aztec culture and history is worthy of proud display.
Aztec for Life
AZTEC FOR LIFE
Aztec for life
Aztec for life baby! This dumb task force is a waste of time and just another product of our politically correct, victim worshipping society. Get over it and stop trying to ruin this school's legacy.
Aztec for Life!
Aztec for life! The SDSU mascot has been here for decades. It gives students here an identity, one they accepted when they chose to attend SDSU.
AZTEC FOR LIFE.
Aztec is more than just a contrived word that refers to the Maxica and their subject empire. It now refers to a legacy here in San Diego.
Aztec moniker is offensive
aztec worrior is a symbol. It does not demean or degrade indigenous people in any way. if anything it is a proud representation of them.
Aztecs are a unique moniker and should definitely remain
Aztecs are lit. Bring back Montezuma. I was proud to have Montezuma represent the school.
Aztecs are siq
Aztecs are warriors, he should be more warrior looking.
Aztecs can be strong. But they shouldnâ€™t be painted as war hungry or crazy
Aztecs for Life
Aztecs for life
Aztecs for life baby
Aztecs for life!
Aztec's for life! I think with the human representation of the Aztec Warrior it creates more of a dialogue to look up and research more about Aztecs and other indigenous people. The guy who plays him at the basketball games does a great job and plays the part very respectfully with great pride.
AZTECS FOR LIFE!!!!! Why would we change this???
AZTECS FOR LIFE!!!!!!! <3
Aztecs is not a derogatory term and We should NOT change the mascot
Aztecs represent strength and pride
Aztecs weâ€™re anywhere near San Diego. They werenâ€™t only warriors but people of many traits. The only reason we have it as our mascot because years back the football coach thought that our old mascot wasnâ€™t tough enough. It is offensive to have a mascot wear a headdress as that is just a stereotypical Indian that has been portrayed by the media for over a century. Native people deserve respect

Aztecs were a group of people similar to Chula Vista Spartans a local high school. Itâ€™s not a slur like the red skins football team. I donâ€™t like how the school is based on the conquistadores who conquered the Aztecs
Aztlan history should be, if not required, a encouraged part of SDSU curriculum.
Before changing the Aztec symbol for SDSU, one should learn about why SDSU chose to be "Aztec" in the first
Being an Aztec has no correlation to an offensive use of the name because it is an admiration to the mighty Aztec people. An intelligent and mighty civilization, we at this school admire and appreciate those people's, just as in the exact same sense you would call your school the Trojans or the Vikings.
Being an Aztec is something to be proud of. I don't think it is cultural appropriation because we are celebrating all the positive aspects of Aztec Warriors. Everyone is proud to be an Aztec.
Being an SDSU Aztec is about being strong and united in our community and I think the Aztec moniker is being used as a way to honor those traits that were held by the Aztec culture. Changing the identity that so many students, faculty, and alumni have come to love and feel empowered by would only diminish the feeling of unity and support of those who were and will continue to be SDSU Aztecs.
Being Aztec descendent myself; I see absolutely no problem with our current moniker, not so I think we have an issue with the human rep. As long as the rep doesnâ€™t do anything insulting
Being Mexican myself, I am not offended by the Aztec mascot. It is a symbol of strength. Those who are offended knew what our mascot was before deciding to apply here, so I don't understand why they choose to be
Being the Aztecs is our schools historical identity and we should continue that legacy.
Both my mother and father, my aunt and uncle and two cousins attended SDSU, and now I do too. Being an Aztec is very important to me and the Aztec symbol means a lot to not only my family, but to a lot of other families and individuals. I sincerely hope that the Aztec task force allows the Aztec symbol to remain at SDSU. What happened to being an Aztec for life? Keep the Aztec identity alive!
Bring back Montezuma
BRING Back Monty!
Bring back the Wampus Cat. It was our coolest mascot.
bruh
By now I've taken 3 AMIND classes here at SDSU and I think that the more informed people are on the issue, the more likely they are to think that the mascot needs to change. Coming to this school, I was proud to say I was an Aztec; now, I refuse to buy anything that relates to Aztecs from the bookstore.
Can we keep the aztec and maybe be Aztec Eagles or something
Change does't need to happen, you need to change.... Keep monty montezuma!!!!
Change the mascot.
Changing our name from the Aztecs to anything else would be ridiculous. There is no way that the rebranding costs would be worth it. Besides costing the school millions in rebranding from pulling all advertisements, clothing, stickers, mugs, school supplies, etc. it would cause every business that uses the Aztec as part of their name in the community to face the same rebranding dilemma.
changing the mascot is outrageous. The "Aztec" is one of the reasons I chose SDSU
Changing the mascot would cost the school a ridiculous amount of money. Also, people claim to be offened, but they have no reason to be. Aztecs litterally do not even exist any more.
Changing the name/mascot would be ridiculous
Chicano studies 141 was a great course that provided some valuable information and a different insight regarding the history of indigenous people
Chicano/Chicana Psychology class I did take at SDSU
Claiming that we as students are Aztecs is an appropriation of culture and we have no rights to call ourselves Aztecs or to dress up in an "Aztec costume" we are also not in the land of the Aztecs which further proves how little of a claim we have on that culture. Indigenous tribes are to be respected and not appropriated.

Coming from native decent I do not see the Aztec moniker as offensive. Entering the school I knew exactly what I was choosing to be known as, an Aztec. Not graduating as an Aztec will be a huge loss for me and my fellow students who had intentions to be Aztec Alumni. I am proud of Aztec heritage and innovation.
Considering the large Mexican population that resides in San Diego, I believe it is inappropriate to use their culture as a mascot.
Continuing to have the Aztec moniker and Aztec Warrior makes me embarrassed to say I go to SDSU and is why I haven't bought any SDSU apparel because of the logo
Cultural competency is a very important part of my graduate program here at SDSU. My informed, educated opinion is that the Aztec moniker and human mascot have been culturally appropriated, which is both outdated and offensive. No amount of education regarding any Indigenous peoples would change my opinion on this
Cultural humility and respect Aztec history
Cultural identity is something to be celebrated. The meaning and traditions of all cultures change and morph over time - this is expected. The Aztec is culturally significant to the students and alum of SDSU, and has a
Cultural images should not be made into mascots, especially in a university modeled after a Spanish mission which was a brutal place for indigenous peoples.
Culturaly Proficiency minor
Definitely should keep the name and the mascot!!!!
Despite SDSU's efforts to honor the Aztec's as an empire I continue to see our mascot known only as a Native American tribe. This has in the past and continue's to lead to insensitive comments about Native American's as a whole. As a school that encourages a community of diversity and acceptance I think it is time to put the Aztec
Diversity Awareness Certificate^
Do not change it.
DO NOT CHANGE IT/ DO NOT MAKE ME TAKE A COURSE. THIS IS RIDICULOUS AND PEOPLE NEED TO GET OVER IT. ITS ENOUGH. WE HAVE VOTED ON THIS BEFORE AND THE DECISION WAS NO
do not change the Aztec
Do not change the Aztec. Itâ€™s been part of our history, of our culture and of our pride. If you change it, you would be removing thousands of students, past faculty and alumni from their name and roots. Besides all the hundred thousand of dollars that will be spent on changing everything, include merchandise that says
Do not change the mascot or I will cum on my own face from disappoint in this school
Do not get rid of the mascot/nickname. That would be the worst decision this University could make.
Do not remove the mascot or the reputation of this school will disappear
DO NOT TAKE AWAY THE AZTEC. Those of us in the Imperial Valley Campus have family from Mexico where the Aztec is native, unlike the Native American Club. They do not have a say in our heritage and our culture. You will be diminishing our culture even more which is very shameful for being a â€œpoliticaly correctâ€ school. Diversity is not excluding everyone, but rather embracing every culture.
Do what you think is morally correct
Doesnâ€™t matter itâ€™s just a name/mascot. Also rebranding would be a pain for the school.
Doesn't matter what you do. My opinion is simply my opinion.
Don
Donâ€™t change it
Donâ€™t change our mascot!
Donâ€™t change the mascot Adela.
donâ€™t change the moniker, it brings pride to the Aztec community while we as a school, embrace different
Donâ€™t get rid of the Aztec itâ€™s an integral part of the SDSU community.
Donâ€™t listen to the vocal minority. Donâ€™t change the mascot. It will make me embarrassed to go to SDSU
Donâ€™t necessarily see how itâ€™s any different than the USC Trojans or the Michigan State Spartans. All representations of ancient warriors

Donâ€™t take away our name!! The word â€œAztecâ€ is not derogatory like the â€œWashington redskins.â€ I am an Aztec for life!
Donâ€™t take away the name. I understand why the representation could be offensive, but not the name. The name is a staple of San Diego State. We are not using it be offensive, the name Aztecs is used to honor them.
Don't leave it up to public vote or we'll be San Diego mascotty mcmascotface. It does seem odd to have a moniker for a specific race that is not actually tied to San Diego directly. Perhaps a moniker that better fits the community would be more appropriate, like padres. That said I see no pressing need to waste the money on a change. It is not demeaning to aztecs or anyone else.
Don't make our mascot Palm trees
Don't remove the Aztec. A small group of people are trying to ruin a great San Diego icon by feigning racism. I love the Aztec and would feel alienated if the school I'm graduating from decided to change it. What ever happened to the phrase Aztec for life?
Don't ruin my mascot!
Dr. Corlett has a wonderful idea about this: have Viejas fund some statues made by the indigenous Nahuatl people and have one at each building. Keep the moniker, but keep close ties with the Nahuatl. The appropriate solution to the mascot is not to run away from cultural issues but to face them and use them as an opportunity
Dump Monty the Aztec. Go back to using the original cat mascot character.
Even if the Aztec moniker have good intentions behind it, it can also have bad connotations. A school's mascot should not be controversial. Students need to be more focus on school than a mascot that is controversial. With a new president, a new vision, maybe a new mascot? Maybe something like UC Davis mascot, or something related to Spanish buildings or UCSD to leverage build relationship w/ UCSD
Even though the Aztec monkier has been well associated with SDSU, it is culturally insensitive towards Indigenous People and we should respect their culture. I believe that as a community, we are mature enough to understand that respecting other people's cultures overweighs our personal attachment to a monkier and able to adapt to a new one. Or the very least, after education on Indigenous People.
everybody needs to stop getting offended in 2018
Everyone is so sensitive these days take pride in the school not itâ€™s name or its symbol
Everyone needs to take a step back and really understand the stakes and significance. There is no bad intention honoring the Aztec. It is a positive representation and a grand identity of the school. Also not to mention the extensive Alumni base you worked so hard for would be alienated.
Everyone on this campus is proud to be an Aztec and it would be disastrous to take that away. Our motto is "Aztec for life". Be strong and don't let a minority group take away Aztec pride. They are of the minority opinion for a reason. NOONE wants the mascot changed but that small group.
Eveyone I know is proud to be an Aztec. Removing our moniker and human representation of the Aztec Warrior would be immensely disappointing; And as a future alumni the University would lose my support.
Explain the culture of the Aztecs.
Fans and students should be informed of the history behind the Aztec warrior and Aztec culture. The history of Mexico is deeply ingrained within that of San Diego and we should be respectful and well-informed if we are to use the Aztec as a symbol.
Finding a way to commemorate the traditional Aztec culture should be a priority but in my opinion removing the moniker or human representation takes away something from this school.
FIRST OF ALL, I don't understand how ANYONE could be offended by the Aztec mascot because there are no such thing as Aztec people anymore. How can you be offended by something that doesn't exist/ doesn't pertain to you? Second, I was told that I once I was accepted into SDSU that I am an Aztec FOR LIFE, not until people get sensitive over SDSU's honoring of the Aztecs by choosing them as a mascot.
Fix the wifi
Fix your mistakes

For an intuition that provides higher education, San Diego State University should be not only progressive, but also aware of the cultural insensitivity taking place. Some might call it appropriation, especially since the school
For as long as a culture is made into a costume, it will be racist. For as long as ignorant and priviledged people have our mascot and moniker as an excuse to perform redface, the SDSU mascot will enable and perpetuate racism. Educating students does not eradicate racism. SDSU exists on Kumeyaay land and "Aztecs" called
For me, it is humiliating and disgraceful to see the Aztec be used as a prop for the university. This school, this community, this city are all built on indigenous land, and there is no accrediation nor courses discussing their histories, cultures, or presence. We have multiple options for a new mascot, and it should not be one that
For question #4: yes, but not at sdsu.
For question 3 I answered yes, however, I donâ€™t necessarily believe that there needs to be more education regarding the Aztecs. However, Iâ€™m from San Diego so I feel that schools in the local area may teach more about the Aztecs than they would in another state or city.
For question 3, I think that further education on the Aztecs would do the student population some good, but rather than creating a whole separate class mandatory for the entire population, it should just be integrated into
For some people, seeing the Aztec moniker can spark an interest in them and lead them to learning more about them. At least in my case.
Fuck off you snowflake pussies, offended over everything...you babies.. Grow a pair and do something useful besides circle jerk over a mascot
fuck the snow flakes that are offended
GET OVER THIS POLITICALLY CORRECT BS IN CALIFORNIA, THERE ARE MORE IMPORTANT ISSUES WITH THIS
Get over your identity political. NO ONE IS OFFENDED BY THIS GARBAGE
get rid of it. plain and simple. it should not be a big deal to anyone but the indigenous people themselves. we as students have 0 stake in the marketing and promotion of a racist caricature. people will get over it.
get rid of the mascot!!! it's racist!!!!!!!!!
Get rid of the mascot. Keep the name or change the name to the Aztec Warriors. Or equivalent.
Get rid of the white dude running around at football games. No need to change anything else
Getting rid of the Aztec would not be the best option for the school. Not only would it strip current students and alum of their college identity, the school would distance itself from students and alum as well.
Giving â€œeducationâ€ on Aztecs is a very tricky task considering the colonial representations of indigenous ppl. The university profits on millions from these cultures, for fucks sake think also about native students, their cultures and an actual education and not the bullshit that SDSU normally gives out. Do better, stop pandering to
Go Aztecs
go aztecs !!
Go Aztecs!
Go Aztecs! Respectful and Honorable.
Haawka. Lora Paz wii nyechuii. Enya unyawaay wii iichuii Paz Ysleta del Sur Pueblo kupaay. Hello, my name is Lora Paz and the Paz family is from Ysleta del Sur Pueblo. The Aztec mascot and moniker creates stereotypes and continues to erase the existence of Native people of this land. Itâ€™s important for the university and students
Have been to the places the Aztecs lived is very insightful
Have people of Aztec descent and culture actually commented? This seems to be mostly other cultures.
Having anyone not of aztec desent dressing up as an Aztec is racist and as a progressive university, I believe that our student body would be proud to be the ones to put an end to this cultural insensitivity.
Having attended a High School where the mascot was a Native American Warrior and was opposed to the depiction of such a mascot I am oppose to the mascot, but not what it represents. We do not need a human embodyment to show the pride that we have in the school or the respect that we have for the Aztec peoples.
Having Aztec ancestors as a mascot dehumanizes the people who identify with the Aztec culture. Aztecs are not caricatures. They are humans and should be represented accordingly.

Having listened to various arguments put forth in the Intercultural Center, I feel it should be removed as a mascot but I also think that there is a need to find a suitable alternative. I suggest an eagle since it's important to Americans, Indigenous peoples and Mexicans.
Having taken both undergraduate and graduate studies, I would be offended and would not support SDSU if "Monty" were eliminated! That includes voting on SDSU-East, I will not support it! Those who change history/traditions due to contemporary views will pay a heavy price with NON-Support of SDSU!
Having the Aztec as our mascot teaches the students of SDSU that cultural appropriation is okay, this mascot does not represent academia and strength, it shows how the painful history and rich traditions of native people are used for entertainment and this school clearly does not care about the psychological damage it does to native student like myself, we need to acknowledge the culture of all.
Having the Aztecs as our mascots honors the culture the same way schools with Pirates, Vikings, and Gauchos as their mascots do. Maintain accurate portrayal and respect
Hello I am a CSUN student. My question is, why are my peoples being up for negotiation!? We are not a costume? Oh yeah I forgot, itâ€™s most likely WHITE people (the colonizers) who are hesitant whether or not to keep the exotic warrior. Educate yourself on racist ideologies, step it up SDSU, yâ€™all better than this.
hello jhello hello ehello hello hello
Here's my question: Why should a small group of people who feel offended have the power to overthrow something that the majority of the students are in favor of? Why would these people pick this school if they don'
History is history, no mater if it is good, bad ,offencive, repulsive. If history is erased then that is simply denial. If SDSU bends to the demand of the vocal minority they will demand more and more, give them an inch they will take a mile. I hope that the President is a sensible man and willdo the right thing.
History is history. Should we remove all spartan and vikings teams just because they were groups of the past?
Honestly I don't think our mascot or representation of the mascot has really bothered anyone. if it had been upsetting before why are we only hearing about it now and if we change it we are changing a long history of the school and that affects students here. So please don't change this long tradition of Aztecs
Honestly I'm Mexican and I think it's pretty dope that my mascot is an Aztec like me. Just don't disrespect the Aztec culture by having like a white person be the Aztec mascot or something.
Honestly there are MUCH larger problems at SDSU than the mascot. The mascot is not the representation of the campus, the graduates entering the workforce are. If they are not of high quality and work ethic, THAT is what reflects the most poorly on our campus. Invest time and money in making classes more available, paying teachers better and providing more resources to students.
Honestly, I don't have a problem with the Aztec moniker personally, but I'm also not of that heritage. If people have complaints about the imagery and representation, then we have a duty to respect that. I believe that further education on the matter would be beneficial to everyone, students and faculty alike. I do take issue with dressing a white student up in traditional native dress however.
Honestly, my opinion and vote should be taken as a grain of salt. Because I honestly feel neutral and wasnâ€™t aware of the Aztec namesake/mascot issue. I feel like changing the Aztec namesake would hurt SDSU branding, However if my fellow students feel hurt because of it, then changing it might be a good idea.
Honor their history through a prestigious university. Don't erase history by pleasing those who find a title
how does sdsu represent aztecs when the buildings are based on espaÃ±oles
How does this directly affect my education? I believe it doesnâ€™t either way.
How else can we promote an Indigenous culture, that shows there is so much more than just removal, promoting Indigenous people should be at for four front of the conversation
how much is enough? Trump, impeachment, classes waist of time. Offer classes that unite us not divide us. "A nation cannot stand divide" Author unknown
http://www.changethemascot.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/DrFriedmanReport.pdf Is a mascot really more important?

Humans and cultures should not be a mascot. Especially if it is white washed and misrepresented. Animals should be mascots, not a people.
I believe that we should know and understand about the culture we represent whether at home, school, work, or any other setting. We can't appreciate what we don't understand.
I absolutely love being an Aztec, it makes me full of pride to be able to be symbolized as a strong, intelligent, just everything I personally strive to be, group of human beings! I love it so much and it is just amazing to see an indigenous person be a symbol of power and smartness, not some laborer or weakling, it is someone who I and all of my uncles and aunts have looked up to as immigrants.
I am 25 and half Mexican. In no way shape or form am I offended
I am a black, latino, jewish, polytransexual female. I feel strongly that the culture surrounding our estemed heritige. They have been a strong proud society and their influence on the area shpuld mot be ignored, but
I am a female student athlete at SDSU and I know that for me and my teammates the Aztec is a warrior and a symbol to keep fighting and never give up. Even the red and black colors represent strength and courage, it is all so important. Even at the football games, before kickoff when the Aztec blows his horn and runs on the field, it gives me much more pride for my school than for a cartoon charter
I am a firm believer in the history and background of all things. The Aztec name should be something to be proud of and understood that the Aztec name has built a reputation not only within the school community but outside the walls of campus as well. Traditions are not to be destroyed but celebrated on the many achievements that
I am a graduate student and spend most of my time in the SLHS building. However, as a future healthcare provider, cultural competency is absolutely critical, yet I didnt start learning about it until graduate school (problem!!) Please start incorporating cultural competency into undergraduate programs, too
I am a local and graduating senior at State. I am also white. Indigenous people and their cultures are not mascots meant to be used and abused for recreation and entertainment. I never tell people that I am an 'Aztec', only that
I am a meso American. In no way do I feel the moniker is offensive. If anything I feel the moniker brings history and culture to a region where Aztecs once lived and I'm proud to see the moniker represented in what was once Azatlan in a respectful and prideful way.
I am a relatively new student joining this discussion late. I have listened to the arguments against the current mascot, and I can see where they are coming from. I think SDSU should move away from the human representation of the Aztec warrior because of the risk of cultural appropriation that applies when a non-
I am a student athlete and i will be very disappointed if the aztec moniker changes.
I am a white student. I give you full permission to disregard my opinion on this matter in favor of those of a Mexican American descent. Because being white, I am in no place to be offended or to not be offended by this icon. Because I am of the race that has historically subjugated the Aztec people and continues to subjugate it's descendants. But I believe it's time to disrupt the status quo.
I am a white, non-Hispanic, non Native-American student and I 100% support retiring the Aztec moniker.
I am all for keeping the Aztec moniker, it is a representation of a distinguished higher education institution. It is a representation of a rich culture. I am of the most indigenous parts of Mexico with beautiful Aztec influenced culture, traditions and language. To think that the Aztec moniker will be replaced, it is an attack to my identity. I am proud that SDSD holds up high the name.
I am an Aztec Warrior! I have overcome the invisible fences of being a minority in my own land!
I am an Aztec for Life
I am ashamed that my alma matter (and current university for gradschool) still requires conversations and polls to gauge the campus climate and opinion on something that is simply and absolutely wrong! Cultural Appropriation, embedded racism, as well as colonialism sentiments and expressions must be proactively deconstructed and stigmatized. CHANGE STARTS HERE... right?!
I am Aztec and my family originates from Mexico. I view the Aztec moniker as a tribute to the Aztec culture.

I am currently enrolled in an American Indian studies course that provides deeper understanding of indigenous people and their histories. I think having the aztec as the mascot allows students to praise the aztecs and their
I am currently working towards my MA degree at SDSU. As a cultural studies scholar, I find the mascot extremely
I am for the Aztec being replaced, as long as it was replaced by something with an equivalent connotation. Something fierce and that could be rallied behind. Maybe something like "Warriors" but definitely not something
I am from Mexico I have Aztec blood in me and I don't find this offensive at all its a tradition that has been established for years. I feel proud to be an SDSU Aztec.
I am Hispanic (Mexican) and I do not find the Aztec problematic at all. If anything, I am proud that SDSU honors the Aztecs by using their name.
I am Hispanic and I fully support our Aztec moniker.
I am latina and i am not at all offended by the mascot
I am Mexican
I am Mexican - American and I feel that it is an honor that a part of my culture can represent such a strong and intelligent group of people at San Diego State University. There are some who say that being represented as Aztecs is culturally insensitive, but I believe otherwise. San Diego State should be known as the Aztecs.
I am Mexican-American and I believe that the Aztec is a great mascot. I am proud to be an SDSU Aztec.
I am Native American and do not find the Aztec logo or name as demeaning. Unlike the old Monty logo or the current Cleveland Indians logo, the name Aztec shows pride for SDSU and the Aztec people. The buildings are named after Aztec words, and even the super computer I run my simulations on is named after an Aztec god. To me, SDSU Aztecâ€™s brings pride.
I am not a Native American myself, so I may not understand the concerns but I do know that students who are Native American feel offended by the mascot. So I believe that we should respect that because it is important to show respect to other cultures especially when we are using it as our school mascot.
I am not offended by the mascot but I feel as if this doesn't have any bearing to how offensive the mascot is since I do not identify as an indigenous person. I have called myself an Aztec for three years, so it would be unusual to not identify as one because I love SDSU and I attribute part of my identity to this institution.
I am now a 2nd year who has taken 3 AMIND classes and strongly believe that being educated in the history of indigenous peoples will change a student's view on our current mascot. I came to SDSU proud to be an Aztec, but now I refrain from saying I'm an Aztec and refuse to buy anything from the bookstore that says Aztec on it.
I am of Mexican descent, whilst I don't have direct relationship with the Aztec peoples, I have always enjoyed learning about the Aztecs. This is much ado about nothing.
I am of native american descent and do find it offensive at all. I think Aztecs were a people who were ahead of their time. I am proud to be an SDSU Aztec. The thousands of people who have graduated from SDSU as an aztec what now we become something else? as For Monty Montezuma I think he is in good taste and represents a warrior a strong person such as an SDSU student.
I am proud and everyone I know is very proud to be an Aztec! I hope the University does not fold to very small minority of people who take issue with it. If the university gets rid of our moniker or our human representation, they will lose my support as a soon to be alumni.
I am proud to be a Aztec. I will be graduating soon and if SDSU chooses to not use the moniker or Aztec warrior the university will loose my support.
I am proud to be an Aztec for life.
I am proud to be an Aztec! Respect the foundation of this school.
I am really proud the Aztec is our mascot. We, the SDSU students, are represented by an honorable warrior and for many of us, part of our roots.
I am student athlete at this school and nothing makes me more proud then be able to represent the San Diego State Aztecs. I take pride in our mascot of the Aztecs and something I honor deeply.

I am truly hoping that you will deeply consider the insensitivity of the mascot and how, while it has not been intended as an offense, has certainly been deemed as such in this current social climate.
I appreciate the argument the other side is making but the Aztec name empowers and uplifts the Mexican and Chicano communities in San Diego and helps to illustrate the intrinsic role these people play here in the city. Removing or altering this name in any way would be detrimental to that connection. Appeasing one smaller reactionary group will ultimately disassociate and dispossess a larger one
I as a born and raised Mexican SDSU student don't find offensive the Aztec name or the Aztec warrior, in the contrary I am very proud to go to a school that has many references to the Mexican culture
I believe getting rid of the Aztec would create a lot of financial problems. We would have to change all of our gear, dorm names, and so on. This would all be so unnecessary, especially when we could put all of that money towards fixing major problems on our campus, such as the old building and dorms. Changing the Aztec is only going to create too many changes that do not need to happen.
I believe it is a complete disservice to the Chicano community and act of disrespect to use the figure of the Aztec as symbol of the SDSU community. Considering the colonial history of California and the continued oppression of black and brown bodies, it is completely tone deaf to use the Aztec. Also, much of the imagery used on SDSU merchandise is actually Mayan imagery. Very ignorant.
I believe our Aztec warrior is a STRONG representation of our university. We are in no way mimicking or making fun of the Aztec culture, we are paying homage to theor strength and fortitude. We are a Hispanic Serving Institution and a leader in Diversity. This moniker reflects our student populations. It would be a shame to get rid
I believe that a more suited moniker/mascot could be thought of for this university. Especially one that does not offend any group of people who identify with the Aztecs.
I believe that as having the Aztec as our mascot does not shed a negative light onto the Aztec culture in any way, but enhances the culture in the sense that we hail the Aztecs! We are not dissing a culture, having the Aztecs as our mascot is innocent with no ill-will
I believe that as long as we portray the Aztec Warrior properly, and give it praise, there should not be anything
I believe that being an Aztec has been part of our tradition, and the school should provide classes or other form of education about who the Aztecs were and how we at SDSU are doing everything we can to appreciate and celebrate the Aztec culture without minimizing it or appropriating the culture and ideals of the Aztecs.
I believe that being proud to be an Aztec is not a mockery of a culture but rather a reflection of how we are aware of and appreciate Indigenous People.
I believe that having the Aztec as our symbol brings about an awareness the the culture of the Aztecs so that people who have never heard of them before now become exposed to them.
I believe that if the students were educated on the aztec people and the spirit of the warrior it would decrease the negative stigma of having an aztec warrior as a"mascot"
I believe that people of Aztec heritage should have the biggest say in the modification or removal of the Aztec moniker, especially those who are SDSU students or alumni. They are the ones who should decide if the moniker is offensive or a misrepresentation of their culture.
I believe that SDSU respects the Aztec culture and does not take advantage of indigenous people
I believe that the Aztec is iconic to this school and the removal of the moniker would be a huge shame
I believe that the Aztec moniker honors the Aztec people and other indigenous people. I have family in certain areas of Mexico such as Mexico City area and YucatÃ¡n which are both places rich in indigenous culture. I have discussed this topic with some of my family members and they feel proud that such a prestigious school in America would represent them in such a big and honorable way.
I believe that the Aztec should remain. It is a traditional, and legendary association for SDSU. I also believe that it should never be perceived as offensive because you choose a mascot or moniker to represent your school that you believe possesses traits such as strength, admirability, and bravery, therefore the Aztec symbolizing SDSU is an honorable gesture not an offensive one.

I believe that the Aztec warrior might be offensive towards some people so if anything had to be changed, that might have to go. However, I firmly believe that SDSU is represented by being an Aztec and if you change that you will change all of our idenities/connection with the school. We say with pride that we are Aztecs whether we are an Alumni or a current student don't take this away from us.
I believe that the aztec warrior represts who we are, it represents our strength, drive, and commitment to our school. The loss of the â€œAztecsâ€ would be losing ourselves, who would I be if I am not an Aztec?
I believe that the depiction of an Aztec should be a positive one. If the moniker and human representation will remain, then the form that represents an Aztec should be a respectful and one that is used to educate others.
I believe that the mascot himself is a symbol of cultural appropriation for people of Mexican descent especially because it is not an accurate representatiom of what once was a powerful and mighty empire. However, I do not think our tuition and fees should be spent changing the name on every piece of merchandise or signage to change the Aztec name, of which we are proud.
I believe that the mascot should stay however it should be made more culturally sensitive. I beli be that it should stay because havingvthe Aztec as a mascot keeps the memory of them alive. However, the mascot is often seen as loud, roust, and party like which is disrespectful. Also, the person chosen to be the mascot also doesn't look much like the Aztecs. Those things should be changed.
I believe that the use of the Azec is generally used with littleform of disrespect toward the Aztec people. Rather it is a historical reference of a strong entity, just as some schools use groups like gladiators.
I believe that there is nothing wrong with being titled the Aztecs- I think what people donâ€™t want to see is a person painting their face and wearing a headdress. There is pride in being an Aztec, however the true history of the way natives have been treated must be discussed and portrayed with more respect.
I believe that this mascot is a symbol of this university. We are a strong, multicultural community and i think that taking it away would really hurt the student chemistry and split many students apart.
I believe that we should do more education about the people we represent. I understand the legacy of our school,but it should not tarnish the legacy of a great civilization we chose as our symbol.
I believe that we should remain the Aztecs and put more effort into impressing why we are Aztecs. If everyone demanded retribution or change for past wrongs America would collapse
I believe the "Aztecs" dont need to be represented by an Human being, rather we as a college should represent them as a culture. An eagle would make a great mascot, as they're symbolic/closely associated to the aztecs without having to have some nonaztec potentially embarass a group of people we want to respresent.
I believe the appropriation of indigenous people for school mascots is offensive.
I believe the Aztec mascot is a tradition and is extremely well known. Every time someone asks what school I go to I respond SDSU and they say oh an aztec. We arenâ€™t supporting the Aztecs in what they did in the past
I believe the aztec moniker and mascot should be done away with entirely not kept and additional education given about the indigenous group. A historical mascot such as Pete the Cat or Dink the Burro should be chosen or a humorous mascot like the UCSD Tritons or UCSB Banana Slugs
I believe the Aztec moniker while not neccesarily having as many people to offend in modern times I still as a American born student of Mexican ethnicity feel the culture is not fully represented in terms of education and awareness also it does feel slightly wtandoffish when students refer to themselves as Aztecs with them not
I believe the Aztec name may be offensive to some, but it is very well established at San Diego State. I believe SDSU could do extensive research to make sure the Aztec groups feel properly represented and honored, as our mascot should have a positive reflection.
I believe the Aztec Warrior mascot honors and celebrates the Aztec people. I have had conversations with many people that are of Aztec descent & they love that SDSU's mascot is the Aztec Warrior.
I believe the creation of language classes revolving around the indigenous culture of Aztecs are already beneficial. The opportunity of learning the language is an experience I would like to take part in next semester.

I believe the moniker and Aztec Warrior should stay, but the university should work with the Mexican and Mexican-American communities to ensure the Aztec Warrior is portraying their heritage accurately and in a
I believe the school should do away with the human mascot but not the name Aztecs as it would cost a lot of money to replace everything with the name Aztecs plus it require taking away the
I believe we have depicted the Aztec in the most sensible and responsible way. To get rid of the Aztec moniker we would throw away years of Aztec pride which mexican-americans have very little off but seeing a winning team named Aztecs is a source of pride for them.
I believe we need to listen to Indigenous students in relation to this issue. If we are to keep this as a mascot it needs to be based on pride in SD's relation to Aztec history. We need to amp up our Indigenous studies program and promote ourselves as a school that uplifts this community, not have the mascot as a mascot purely for this reason but because it is a specialty focus in SDSU's studies.
I believe we should absolutely keep the Aztec name. My parents and brother went here and they see themselves as Aztecs. Even if it is decided to change it wonâ€™t with the current student body and alumni.
I believe we should all vote for it and that it must be mandatory to vote or we can't register for classes. If we didn't make it mandatory, the results will be skewed as only a certain population might vote yes/no for it. As an alternative, we can be the warriors instead. But if we keep it, we should diminish the human representation and educate our community about Indigenous People.
I believe we should keep the Aztec moniker as well as an icon used for sporting events. We are the only school with an athletic team using the SD symbol and not a character like Baylor or KU.
I believe we value the Aztec and the culture in a respectful way.
i came to san diego state university, embracing my new identity as an aztec. i have pride in being an aztec. i understand the controversy surrounding the mascot but as long as we act as compassionate individuals and act on our morals, at the end of the day it does not matter what we are called.
I came to SDSU to be an Aztec for life! Not to a minority whim. SDSU tradition is largely based on the Aztec symbology and there is no valid reason to change now.
I can see why people would be upset about the Aztec Warrior but changing the Aztec moniker would change the entire school's brand and sense of community. I am Native American and I know cultures being exploited is bad, but I don't think SDSU exploits the Aztec culture.
I come from a Native American backround, and find this fine. The representation is in no way offensive, and I assume it offends no one of legitimate Aztec heritage. I've also read and studied Native American heritage.
I did a presentation on the Aztec culture in my communications class. I also donâ€™t believe the mascot is disrespectful. I feel proud to be called an Aztec.
I do believe more education needs to be brought forth regarding indegineous people beyond the American Indian studies SDSU currently offers. However, that education is not enough to negate the necessity of changing the moniker AND the human representation of the Aztec.
I do not believe people should be mascots. We can uphold the history of indigenous people in San Diego without objectifying their culture.
I do not believe that we should change the moniker. As all alumni will have attended SDSU, if we change the moniker, my dad will have been an Aztec and I will end up being something different.
I do not believe we need to rebrand ourselves. However I do believe that we should make education of the aztec a requirement for students.
I do not find where pride originated from by honoring or being represented by Aztecs. They were a barbaric race that killed a lot of people.
I do not mind if the Aztec is represented by a human or changed to some other symbol (e.g. an oversized Aztec calendar). But I would be very sad to see the Aztec name dropped, especially being a senior who is about to graduate and has been proud to be a representative of the Aztec name. I feel that SDSU has overall done a good job in representing Aztec culture in a respectful manner. Thank you.

I do not really understand why this is an issue. I think it is honorable to have a moniker that is associated with an amazing civilization. No one associates negativity with it except for those who try. The Aztecs get to be associated with higher learning. If the logo, or name was insensitive I would understand, but I see nothing that has a history to offend or is currently used to be offensive.
I do not see SDSUâ€™s use of the Aztec as appropriation. I have taken it up to speak to multiple Native Americans and they also, in fact, see it as something great as it cherishes their culture instead of bashes it.
I do not think that the term "Aztec" is offensive and we should definitely not change our mascot. I will always be an Aztec for life. The human representation that walks around sports events, however, is unnecessary.
I do not think the Aztec moniker is an issue and it has been a staple of SDSU for so long that it should not be
I donâ€™t feel as if the Aztec culture is looked down upon or mocked on our campus. Itâ€™s a strong mascot and I feel as if everyone unites under it.
I donâ€™t identify as a native student, but I know that this is an issue that impacts that community Specifically. This survey is a disservice to them because no thorough information about possible outcomes are addressed. I believe that you will receive uneducated responses. Itâ€™s more than just the opinions of students, itâ€™s about the treatment, stereotyping, &lack of resources to the community.
I donâ€™t think they should change the Aztec. Itâ€™s a historical figure and represents the history of many Aztecs/Mexicas. It also provides us with a sense of representation with our fellow country, Mexico, since the population of California consists of a majority of Mexican Americans.
I don't care either way.
I don't get upset about Notre Dame's portrayal of an Irish man and I am Irish. It is a moniker and a mascot. There is no need to appropriate culture for native Americans when an accurate portrayal of an Aztec would be extremely aggressive and graphic. Please stop trying to be press political correctness upon us.
I don't know why you would want to change the aztec mascot. Mascots are supposed to be tough. I see the aztec moniker as an honoring of the Aztec people and their toughness. DO NOT CHANGE IT
I don't like the human representation of an Aztec warrior, but I think there are many other possibilities. There are other powerful potential representations from Aztec history such as an eagle, something related to their agriculture, the Aztec calendar face, or an Aztec god, like Huitzilopochtli (god of war and the sun) and
I don't really have a preference. I have heard terrible things about the things the Aztecs did, so maybe idolizing them isn't the best, but that was a long time ago, and i don't think anybody is actually endorsing their actions.
I don't really see a problem with the aztec warrior. Although I am a notoriously apathetic individual, I feel that further teaching incoming students about the aztec culture would be beneficial.
I don't see this representation being taken as a racist symbol.
I don't think having a historically accurate Aztec costume is as big of a problem as the overall usage of the Aztec
I don't think our generation or the next will be very accepting of our mascot. But if we change it, we should still have it be something cool, like aliens. The SDSU Aliens.
I don't think people thought of the Aztecs in a negative way at all for the past 120 years. I think it made the students feel more confident in themselves at least. I think it is important for them to know what an Aztec warrior is. They are at least hearing the name, a part of history. The Aztec is SDSU's identity and I don't think this situation is meant to be offensive. SDSU has diversity.
I feel it is not necessary to get rid of the Aztec as our mascot. There's nothing wrong with it and people have been fine with it for years.
I feel like a part of San Diego state would be taken away and firmly believe the Aztecs should remain as
I feel like if the Aztec mascot was taken away, the whole campus culture would change. I have grown up dreaming I would be a San Diego State Aztec, nothing else.
I feel like just like the Spartans are used as a mascot which offends me, a Greek, that since that's allowed then fine have an aztec warrior be represented. everyone's so sensitive now a days

I feel like the Aztec represents me as a student and believe it should continue to represent me. If not my identity as an Aztec is lost and I donâ€™t know what I would do.
I feel like the Aztecs are a symbol of strength and perseverance. There is a lot of talk about people feeling offended by the Aztec but as a Latino whose whole family is from Mexico we see the Aztec as a source of pride.
I feel like the fact that this is even a question of debate is reflective of how superficial our society has become. The Aztec moniker is not presented in a mocking or exploitation-driven manner. Our society, and especially our liberal university, loves to victimize even the smallest of matters.
I feel like there are pieces of Aztec history, such as animals or objects that could be used to represent Aztecs
I feel our school may too often bow to peer pressure and outside influences. SDSU has a proud history in San Diego, and the Aztec Warrior has been a part of that history.
I feel people these days are more vulnerable because there will always be something that offends one but not another. I feel if we respectfully understood and respected where our mascot came from there wouldn't be such
I feel strongly that we do our best to uphold the integrity of and to positively portray our Aztec warrior spirit and mascot. With the respect we have for our moniker and the fact that the "Aztec" name has grown to stand for a community of students, faculty, and alum who deeply cherish the SDSU and uphold its values throughout their lives, I feel that changing it now would do more harm than good.
I feel that between required cultural classes and the various ways that we pay homage to indigenous people groups as a school (i.e. Native American heritage celebration at basketball games), the Aztec moniker is if anything helping celebrate and teach people about an often misconstrued ethnic group.
I feel that the Aztec moniker is and has been a symbol for San Diego State University. I would not like to see the moniker changed.
I feel that we should use this as an opportunity to educate our campus about the aztec culture and what we want it to represnt . We can do so respectfully without it being appropriation. Maybe at each game state a bit of history , it would also be cool to have an aztec day with lots og information amf rememberance to the culture. I think we all as students have become proud te be called aztecs.
I feel that, while the moniker â€œAztecsâ€ and the mascot are perfectly acceptable, non-Mexican students should not dress in foux Aztec garb, be it at football games, or other events
I feel we should embrace the name Aztec and keep the human representation. To take it away would take away our identity as a school and, personally as a student with Mexican culture
I find nothing derogatory or derisive in the representation of the Aztec Warrior for SDSU. If anything, it originally motivated me to learn the history and culture of its origin.
I find this to be pathetic. I am from Mexico and every time I go visit I see someone dressed like an Aztec on the streets. I can not belive that some people who are not even Mexican or from Aztec decent actually find offense to this. I believe that our time, energy and money should be spent on something else (how about a stadium for
I get that offends some people, and I get that some people couldnâ€™t care less. I am personally not offended, but I am white and Iâ€™ve never faced any kind of discrimination or issues many minorities have. I donâ€™t think itâ€™s my place to make a decision. That being said, I want everyone to feel comfortable and loved. So if we need to be an animal instead, letâ€™s do it. Itâ€™s not a battle worth fighting
I got my undergraduate degree from SDSU and am working on my graduate degree through SDSU. It would be so sad to loose the Aztec name and mascot. I would no longer feel a connection to the school if it changed.
I grew up near the Navajo Nation and have studied various cultures and social disciplines for 20 years. BE A LEADER IN THIS DEBATE! We are a University and we need to represent academic excellence, this mascot does
I guess I think it's okay...?
I have attended cultural humility and competency workshops for Ntive and indigenous peoples. i have also attended their discussions and spoke with those who Identified as such to gain insight
I have been an Aztec since 1966 and like our logo and mascot. I fail to see how it demeans or denigrates any
I have heard several comments that our school is being racist. I do not fully understand and would like to

I have never once felt ashamed or guilty to attend SDSU. I am proudly an Aztec for life having earned my BS here at SDSU a decade earlier. The Aztec is a symbol of strength and should not be considered offensive, as the Aztec people were more than the images depict.
I have never seen or felt that SDSU has abused or objectified the Aztec culture. Our world is becoming far too sensitive about the wrong things. I would not know what an Aztec was if I had not heard it from the SDSU mascot. We need to be inclusive and build a culture of tolerance and acceptance with wisdom and maturity.
I have spoken with students who descended from Aztecs, and they have no problem with having SDSU's mascot the Aztec. It's a correct interpretation of how the Aztec warriors were; so I see no "appropriation" of the Aztecs.
I have take extensive steps to learn about Aztec culture as a result of this discussion and I feel that the moniker needs to be changed. My new knowledge should not be seen as a benefit to having the Aztec moniker.
I have taken 2 American Indian studies at SDSU. What I have learned is that our university has gone the extra mile to ensure that our mascot is culturally accurate by designing the gear with Mexican Historians. For us, as a university, need to keep the mascot because removing it only further hinders Native American progress and
I have taken 2 courses in American Indian studies & am currently enrolled in a 3rd, and throughout these classes one thing we always talk about it Native Americans being erased from history. I believe if we abandon The Aztec mascot and Moniker we will contribute to the culture of erasing Native history. I also believe we could respectfully represent the Aztec in ways that highlight their history.
I have taken a history class that spent some time going over the Aztec tribe. I feel that SDSU represents the pride and leadership that the Aztecs demonstrated.
I have taken American Indian studies classes and still believe we should be the Aztecs
I have taken amind 140 and 141. I understand how the indigenous people were treated. Many races and ethnicities have been through many of the same issues. This say and age there will always be somebody that gets offended no matter how nice you try to be. We have been conditioned to become soft and passive of
I have taken AMIND 440, and am of Mexican heritage whereas I identify closely with the Aztec
I honestly don't understand why the moniker is such a problem. People find the simplest things to get offended with. Being Mexican, I love the fact that I go to a school who's mascot is related to my ancestors.
I hope you keep the Aztec warrior just as is. Thank you.
I just feel that there needs to be more respect towards the indigenous people and no cartoonization of their
I know it's a hard transition away from a long standpoint representation but I believe SDSU has grown culturally to see that the Aztecs name is not respective of all it's student and faculty body. Therefore I would be happy to see it replaced but a mascot not insensitive to the indigenous people whom we remember, embrace, cohabitant
I know more about the Aztec people because it isnâ€™t our mascot. Otherwise, I would have no knowledge or passion to learn about those people.
I like the idea of keeping the name however maybe picking an animal associated with the Aztecs might be more beneficial and less culturally offensive than an indigenous person.
I like the name a lot, which is the reason why I chose this university.
I love being an aztec and don't feel like I'm disrespecting the name.
I love the Aztec name for its uniqueness.
I LOVE THE AZTEC WARRIOR PLEASE DONT CHANGE IT!
I LOVE THE MASCOT!!!!
I love the moniker, it is a staple of SDSU culture and hope it stays
I myself am a decent of Aztecs and find that the mascot is not in any way offensive, but rather empowering. The Aztec empire no longer exists, but with this mascot of fearless warriors and advanced civilization is being honored and an inspiration. Aztecs are NOT NATIVE AMERICANS and people are conflating the issue of mistreatment of Native Americans and the past Central (Mexican) indigenous peopl
I myself am a Yaqui Indian and I see having the Aztec as a symbol of strength and honor.

I only support the Aztec moniker if further education about indigenous peoples is implemented and required for all SDSU students. I believe this issue can be viewed as an opportunity to educate students and make them aware of the harms of Native American mascots on Native American populations and an opportunity to honor and memorialize the Aztecs and other indigenous peoples.
I personally take a lot of pride in being an Aztec at SDSU. I feel like it embodies the kind of strength that I strive for, both physically (in sports) and in character.
I personally think that while having a human mascot is tricky and could risk offense, that the Aztecs are acceptable as they are not regarded as less than human, but as an image of an admirable human. The Aztecs were an ancient civilization, and it is a tribute to their culture rather than a singling out of a specific race, making
I really, really, really, really, really, really, really, do not care about this.
I see no meaningful difference between using an Aztec warrior vs. something like the Fighting Irish, or the Minnesota Vikings. The name is used because of admiration for attributes of the people group and is not represented in the community in a fashion intended to demean any ethnic group but rather to celebrate our
I see our mascot as a celebration of the Aztec people, not an appropriation. The Aztecs have a historical tie to our school and the surrounding areas. To give our mascot context (for example, explain some history of the Aztec people and the historical ties to the school) would be beneficial.
I see this as a celebration of the regional history and Chicano students are okay with this. Changing the mascot will just have unnecessary rebranding costs
I speak for many. We are proud to call ourselves Aztecs, and show no disrespect for the historical people. If the moniker is changed, many will still use it unofficially, so changing it would be futile
I strongly believe that the Aztec warrior is a symbol of strength, determination, and never giving up. I am proud to be an Aztec and aspire to be an Aztec in every aspect of my life. Aztecs represent SDSU and our values.
I take great pride in being a SDSU Aztec Warrior. When this moniker was chosen, it was done out of respect for the Aztec culture & to keep that culture alive for present & future generations. Changing the moniker insults the memory of the Aztecs, implies that 100+ years of tradition were meaningless, & steals the sense of pride & ownership associated with attending this prestigious university.
I Thi k the name should s tau. Myself and the other students are proud to be Aztecs!! Iâ€™m proud to be apart of this school and to be an Aztec. Honor our school tradition and donâ€™t change the mascot or name!
I think a great compromise is taking away the human representation of the Aztec, while keeping the name of the Aztecs. Student who feel upset or hurt by the name Aztecs should have thought about that prior to attending this prestigious school with rich tradition and a great alumni base.
I think a more cartoon mascot that doesn't look so races or that exemplifies who the Aztecs were not branding them as just warriors
I think culturally the people offended by the name Aztecs and white people who think their superior and that if the problem bother the actual people of the Aztec culture someone would have said something years ago. Our society is becoming too sensitive and think that taking pride in the Aztec warrior as we do does the mascot justice. Make tuition affordable to support that culture.
I think getting rid of the name and mascot is a waste of time and money, but requiring a certain level of respect and education through the university is a good idea
I think if anything the Aztec Moniker is bringing more awareness to the culture. I do not see it as demeaning, I think if anything it is a way to represent and take pride in a culture that was so prevelant in the are long ago.
I think it is a waste of money to change all of our logos and destroys my connection to the University. We are honoring the Aztec people by sharing their name.
I think it is appropriate to keep the "Aztec" name, but representation of an Aztec should be changed to a non-human symbol of the warrior (e.g. Bow and arrow)
I think it is extremely important to remain the Sdsu Aztecs as it is our established name and marketing tool. I am proud to be an Aztec and would be extremely upset if this were to change

I think it is honoring to the Aztec peoples if done with respect. I am an ancestor of the Aztecs.
I think it is time for a new moniker. Using the Aztecs is a moniker is a form of cultural appropriation. I mean, come on. Hepner Hall is a mission style building, and it is the most photogenic building// frequently used symbol of the university. That is not cool for the university to use both mission/ colonial images alongside the image and
I think it should not be a big deal whether or not we change our mascot as long as it is not something blatantly
I think it would be a shame to change the mascot and name of SDSU from Aztecs. The Aztec has a long and proud history with the school and the community. It is not right to give that up because a vocal few decided that it is
I think it would be foolish and stupid to change the Aztec moniker. It would cost millions of dollars to rebrand the school and we would loose revenue coming in from alumni donations. It is not practical or necessary seeings that the only people who oppose it make up a very small percent of the enrolled students at SDSU.
I think it would be nice to have a cartoonish aztec warrior too.
I think itâ€™s a great way to honor past histories. I do not see it as slamming or shaming any culture. In fact I find the Aztec heritage inspiring to learn from, I love learning more about the culture and itâ€™s one of the reasons I chose to be an Aztec from the beginning. I do not see an issue with representations like Aztec, Vikings
I think itâ€™s absolutely ridiculous to consider getting rid of our SDSU tradition of the Aztec. Not only am I an SDSU student but I am a third generation born and raised in San Diego County and I have not met anyone wanting to diminish those tradition!
I think itâ€™s fine to keep it however I do feel education on Aztec culture would help many understand what they are representing and how it shouldnâ€™t be disrespected
I think its offensive to indians
I think its ridiculous that Monty is being considered on being changed as being an Aztec is paying tribute to the Aztec culture. Per se, if there was a mascot that praised me by dressing up like me, said things like I did, I would not be offended with that decision because I see myself as a great person. I also come from a Mexican background with 90% of my family still living in Mexico city.
I think keeping the mascot as a human person is disrespectful to the culture of native peoples. However, we could have a culture of pride for native cultures by having the mascot be Aztec buildings etc. Something to honor the culture rather than a person that disrespects the culture. I'm proud to be an Aztec, but we should be respecting the people rather than making a mockery of a culture.
I think making a cartoon version of Aztec would be more offensive than accurately representing the Aztecs.
I think people of Native American descent should be brought to the table to voice their concerns, without judgement or bias, however I believe the only Native Americans that should speak on whether the name is offensive or not are those of Aztec descent. Period.
I think San Diego state has been very respectful of the culture and I think this is an opportunity for conversation not to just ignore it by getting rid of it
I think SDSU should continue using the Aztec moniker, so long as SDSU gives back to the local Native American communities. I attended an SDSU basketball game this season in which a local tribe performed at the half time show. That was nice to see, but we need to be doing so much more
I think staying true to the Aztecs and the indigenous people is important, but our mascot should not be a ethnic culture. I think having a mascot like the Aztec Quetzal bird would be more appropriate.
I think that a having a mascot is a way of expressing a positive image of whatever that mascot may be. I do know that a headdress and the things on it are earned in native cultures though, so I understand the conflict.
I think that if a little history of the original Aztec warriors were dispensed or displayed around campus, it would instill a renewed sense of pride in our moniker, while simultaneously honoring & respecting the origin of which it came from. Being a person of color, I think showing that you respect aspects of a culture is the best way to avoid controversies of cultural appropriation.

I think that if it is insulting to a people group, especially based on race/nationality/ethnicity it should be changed. In the same way that the â€œredskinsâ€ football team should change their name. And it doesnâ€™t hurt anyone if we were not the Aztecs, but it does if we are.
I think that if we keep the mascot we should require students to take a GD class on Aztec culture or language
I think that it would be beneficial to SDSU and the San Diego community to keep the Aztec moniker and Warrior because they have united so many people and provide an opportunity to keep the history of the Aztec culture alive in the minds of the students.
I think that keeping the Aztec Warrior is important. It is an opportunity to highlight the rich history of the Aztecs and how that represents the SDSU community. There is so much to be done to promote cultural education. By taking away the Aztec, not only are you losing decades of tradition, but missing an opportunity to educate the community, it's an opportunity to build cultural competency.
I think that keeping the name Aztec is appropriate, but the human mascot and some of the imagery used is inconsiderate and disrespectful to the culture.
I think that one of the best things that SDSU could do in relation to this Aztec moniker is find a middle ground. It's not as if we have human Aztec representation on most of our gear, in fact the majority of it is arrows. Why not have that be the mascot, and just call ourselves Aztecs? Also education about it doesn't change the name, it would be interesting, but it would also annoy people.
I think that SDSU have to keep the term :"Aztec" because it is the part of the culture of this school. I also think that using the term "Aztecs" can be an opportunity to share about the indigenous people's culture.
I think that SDSU portrays the Aztec moniker in a positive, empowering way and should not be changed.
I think that the claims of racism are ridiculous. The Aztecs are a ancient culture that is no longer practiced except in heritage. I see nothing wrong with the Aztec warrior being used as a moniker, as long as the administration respects the history of the culture in a non offensive, celebratory way.
I think that the indigenous communities around us should also be approached for opinions. I think that the school should keep the moniker so long as they fulfill a responsibility in partaking more in representing and honoring Aztec/ Indigenous groups through education.
I think that the mascot should stay the same. I feel the school is not trying to make fun of the Aztecs, and without it being our mascot many people may not even know about Aztecs at all. I think as long as the school
I think that there should be an explanation on how it got that moniker. Why take away the heritage when it
I think that to have an Aztec as our mascot represents strength and dignity. There should be nothing offensive of such because we are not mocking Aztecs, we are PROUD to be Aztecs. No need to get this PC about it...
I think that while changing the name from Aztecs to something else will influence the visibility of SDSU in the most immediate sense; many will be unaware of the name change. Many fans/alumni will also continue to support us in spirit through the use of Aztecs gear. However, I also feel that if the name/image is to stay we need to have a connection to the people whom it is named after.
I think the Aztec is one of the staples of SDSU and is a symbol of pride and community. By removing it, it is altering SDSUs culture and students.
I think the Aztec mascot is a great symbol of the sacred culture of the Aztecs. If anything, the Aztec mascot encourages more people to learn and immerse themselves further into the Aztec culture. The Aztec mascot is a figure that students admire and look up to. At sporting events, the mascot is a main source of SDSU pride and
I think the Aztec moniker is a part of SDSUâ€™s identity. We, as students, are proud to be Aztecs. It would severely damage the pride of the school were the moniker removed. Why is the Aztec inappropriate but the
I think the aztec warrior should definetly be changed because it seems racially insensitive. Maybe it would be more appropriate if it was an aztec chihuahua or some animal like that, but not an aztec man.
I think the majority of the campus population does not understand that the Aztec are a indigenous group of people and using this group of people as a mascot is offensive. Also, the campus buildings are named after both Maya and Aztec cultures, and that is a problem. Mayas and Aztecs are different groups of people with different

I think the mascot is very offensive. I am a person of color and the Aztecs are my actual ancestors. There are a million more appropriate options for a mascot. Tradition isnâ€™t a good excuse to keep the offensive mascot.
I think the mascot should stay because I think great pride comes along with being an Aztec. When I see the mascot, I think only great things. I do understand the concern and think it would be beneficial to have more information about the history of the Aztecs around campus/on buildings with Aztec related names.
I think the moniker of AZTEC is already a brand name, well known in other universities. Instead of a fresh start, I rather provide more information about AZTEC culture.
I think there is a way to honor Aztec culture without a charivature of an indigenous person. Perhaps a symbol from Aztec mythology would be more appropriate, if it were done in consultation with community members and scholars of meso-American mythology.
I think there should be more information made available to students about the history of the Aztec people. If there is, Iâ€™m unaware and many other students may be as well and there should be more of an effort to make students aware of this information. I believe this because it may seem disrespectful for SDSU to use this identity, the Aztecs, without paying proper respects.
I think this whole argument is ridiculous, not everything is racist or intolerant. The Aztec on our campus is revered and respected, not degraded in any form.
I think under no circumstances the Aztec monicker should be removed from San Diego State. It would be ridiculous to remove a name that is associated with the school's community, the "Aztec for life" slogan that has been reinforced for however many years. By removing this name the university would be denying the hundreds
I think we are going to keep the name and the mascot, we need to do our best to not misrepresent the culture
I think we need to have an identity that expresses our progressive, educated reputation
I think we need to keep our mascot how it is now. Not only would it mean completely rebranding SDSU as a whole (we wonâ€™t even be Aztecs for life anymore), but it is completely unnecessary. I donâ€™t believe that it is offensive to have our mascot as an aztec the way it is because he is not violent, only aggressive, but in sports thatâ€™s positive. Plus, we are PROUD to be aztecs.
I think we should be mindful as to not disrespect any cultures, but to continue to hold "aztec pride" in an
I think we should focus on the tens of thousands of dollars the school is robbing its students of through the corrupt meal plan system as well as the completely bullshit rule that sophomores must give more money to the school for extremely overpriced and lower quality student living.
I think we should keep the mascot because we built a whole community around this and it's not about the mascot anymore but the family!!!!!!!!!!!
I think we should keep the name (Aztecs) but use artifacts/pieces of their work to represent them instead of having the moniker or a guy dressed up like an Aztec, dancing around.
I think were celebrating and honoring Aztec culture by having it as our mascot. Keep it!
I took AMIN 141 and found it very insightful. I am from out of state and did not have any previous knowledge of the Native Americans. I think it would be benefical for all students to take a course on Native Americans
I undersrand the connection between using the aztec name and teaching about aztec culture. However, I do not want another required course just so that we don't feel guilty for using the name. Are indeginous people offended by the use of "aztec" or are we offended for them?
I understand both sides, but I am still an Aztec and will graduate as an Aztec. Changing the Aztec moniker would be an absolute headache and finance nightmare. There are so many things within SDSU that relate to Aztec tradition, from building names, street names, and to names of organizations and student organization symbols/logos. I still believe we are honoring the Aztec tradition.
I understand certain aspects can be offensive but instead of removing, can we educate and update to grow cultural awareness?

I understand people's arguments of cultural appropriation but I see this as a different argument than mascots that represent Native Americans in a racist appropriated manner. The Aztec empire fell along time ago. Using the names the Aztec as a mascot I don't have a problem with. I can see people's problem with cartooning the Aztec.
I understand the concern. I would just say that SDSU has always respected the Aztec name and if it continues to approach the subject with respect and recognition and doesn't make a cartoon out of it, it should stay. There is strong connection to Aztecs here at state. Just my opinion. Good luck haha
I understand the definition of cultural appropriation and do not believe that the Aztec moniker is exemplifying cultural appropriation. Further education about indigenous people and Aztecs to all SDSU students in the future would greatly improve our understanding of our university's logo and what it represents. SDSU students are not making fun of the rich culture of the Aztec indigenous peoples.
I understand the love for the Aztec mascot and as a symbolic past of being at SDSU, but as a progressive institution of higher education, it is time to do what is right and lead by example. We cannot appropriate other cultures for entertainment. Especially with the human mascot as it depicts the Aztecs in a 'barbaric' fashion.
I understand the nativeâ€™s reactance at the idea of the mascot. But I believe there is a way we could use the symbol of the aztec warrior to further peoples education on not only the Aztecs but native Americans across the
I understand the reasoning for wanting to be inclusive when it comes to the school's mascot but really this is a little overboard. I have many hispanic friends that have take no offense to the mascot and are actually quite proud of it. The SDSU Aztec does its job in properly representing the Aztec culture and also is a sense of pride for
I vowed to be an Aztec for life when I committed to going to SDSU. I would love to be able to hold onto that as I am a senior about to graduate.
i want monty to rip the hearts of the defeated at every sports game, as tradition dictates
I want people to be more educated about the indigenous peoples of the Americas to end the ignorance and hate showed by some SDSU students and alumni
I was a Resident Advisor for two years and completed REO's Cultural Competency Training Program. I think the debate over the Aztec moniker stems from lack of education on the cultural history of the Aztecs. We should take pride in having such a noble mascot
I was formerly on the board for the college of arts and letters when the proposal was originally submitted. As an African American I can understand the need for cultural sensitivity. I don't however believe that this mascot is in any way derogatory or disrespectful.
I will always be an Aztec.
I will be very upset if the Aztec mascot is taken away
I wish every faculty member embraced â€˜attaining cultural competencyâ€™ since not all professors at SDSU are culturally competent, they microagress against students and tend to skip the lecture/discussion on culture or individual differences when it comes up in the book or in research articles they are quick to dismiss and avoid culture related subjects. Tuition isnâ€™t cheap.Trainprofessors culturally
I would be disappointed to call myself a sdsu alum if the mascot were to be changed.
I would be very upset if SDSU decided to get rid of the Aztec moniker. SDSU is represented well by the name. I think it is important to continue to educate students and the SDSU community about the Aztecs and their traditions, but it should not be done away with.
I would love to see this change and so appreciate this effort!
I would say maybe a change in the aztecs logo. Or maybe change the aztecs name into something aztec related like the ahuizotls or maybe jaguars. Human mascots just make me uncomfortable. I guess it would be nice to know a bit about the aztecs every now and then so I know the history of my school.
I would say the Aztecs name is fine for me I never had any problem or issue, but using an both American name or any other name with both Hispanic and American would.be a good idea. The point is where I can be informed about the changes and issues about this conflict.
I would suggest changing the mascot to a female Aztec

Iâ€™m a black student. The fact that I feel the need to say that is a problem, but that is besides the point. I believe that to not use the human representation of the mascot is a horribly racist idea because it is effectively trying to bury Native American history.
Iâ€™m a mestizo Mexican with Nahua background. Seeing the Aztecs represented at an American university has always been a source of pride for me. Iâ€™ve never seen the Aztecs represented negatively in my time at State and I think seeing buildings with Nahuatl names has been a positive experience, not a negative one.
Iâ€™m currently taking AMIND 141, which I believe should be a requirement as SDSU students to at least understand the history behind the Natives in America, specifically San Diego. I am really proud to be an Aztec but I do think itâ€™s important to educate our students about the history of Natives. Since the Aztec isnâ€™t a religious symbol, it shouldnâ€™t be offensive and therefore we should keep it.
Iâ€™m currently taking AMIND 440
Iâ€™m Mexican-American and I understand the issue that has been brought up, but I do not believe there is a need to change our moniker. There are other issues that are more important than our moniker.
Iâ€™ve taken 12 units of AMIND courses and see the value in learning about Native Americans in this area. Offer a course specifically on our mascot.
If a group of people find something offensive. Get rid of it.
If an institution is willing to make money off an entire population, which still exist in Mexico, then there should be plenty aspects of that culture tied in the education. As a first time student I learned nothing about the Aztec people or culture. Not once has anything Aztec been mentioned to me in classes, social gatherings, during registration, nothing. Aztec art or culture is no where.
If any University in an America has the right to bear the name Aztecs it's the one closest to mexico and one who sits on once Mexican land
If anything, as long as the mascot isnâ€™t objectified and shows an accurate representation of an Aztec, thatâ€™s all that matters. Get an actual Native American who plans on educating others about the importance behind the history of the indigenous peoples. I donâ€™t want people to think that all they do is run around with
If change is needed then some suggestions for a new mascot could be: SDSU Paladins, SDSU Centurions, SDSU Water Dragons, SDSU Predators, SDSU Scorpions, SDSU Phantoms, SDSU Salamanders, etc. I have no complaints
If individuals don't understand why people are hurt by the mascot even when they already know that sides perspective and arguments, I highly doubt that they will understand even if further education related to the
if Monte must go, so be it. I do not understand, however, how the use of a people's actual name (not slang) is
If people are offended by the Aztec, I think they're uneducated and weak minded with nothing better to do. To care that much about something like this shows how weak they are.
If people are offended by the Aztecs moniker, we can find something else to call ourselves. To continue this inconsiderate representation is unacceptable.
If San Diego State changes the Aztec I will be transferring schools. I love the Aztec and I am proud to be an Aztec but if the name or moniker is changed I will be leaving. There is nothing offensive about the name or the moniker. All the gear that has been bought and the money that has been spent on Aztec gear would now never be worn. If we are changing the name then we would be the SDSU pansies.
If SDSU isn't the Aztecs then teams like the Vikings shouldn't be allowed either. If you say it's okay to be a Viking, then you're saying it's okay to be white but not a person of color. And being an Aztec isnâ€™t appropriation because we are celebrating, not disrespecting, the Aztec people. There are so many Aztec things that the school would have to waste a lot of money replacing/changing it all.
If SDSU isn't the Aztecs then teams like the Vikings shouldn't be allowed either. If you say it's okay to be a Viking, then you're saying it's okay to be white but not a person of color. And being an Aztec isnâ€™t appropriation because we are celebrating, not disrespecting, the Aztec people. There are so many Aztec things that the school would have to waste a lot of money replacing/changing it all.

If SDSU raises awareness, starts initiatives, & raises money to improve the issues revolving around the Aztec culture, they would truly earn the right to call themselves Aztecs. Itâ€™s unfair to glorify a culture for your benefit when people of that culture still exist in flesh & blood (not just in books, paintings, & ruins). They're poor, suffering, & being discriminatedâ€¦ & nobody cares about that.
If SDSU should retain the Aztec moniker then perhaps consulting with Indigenous Natives regarding appropriate and respectable representation would be the responsible approach. In any case, if the Aztec warrior is kept, the school shoulld take a moral and responsible stance and make American Indian History, AMIND 140,a mandatory class and graduatiion requirement for all incoming and transfer stud
If students at SDSU are offended by the mascot, it's the responsibility of the school to make sure that the students are heard. The human representation of the Aztec warrior is completely tasteless and should be removed. The spirit of San Diego State does not rest with the mascot, and to create a more inclusive campus
If students at SDSU who are Aztec descendants feel uncomfortable with the mascot and are speaking out against it, I believe that we should listen and take their thoughts and feelings into consideration.
If the Aztec changes I will never donate or give any sort of help to SDSU ever again.
If the Aztec is racist, what about the Vikings or Pirates? The Padres? Please stop asking students, this is a yearly controversy, either remove it or leave it, im sick of these surveys.
If the Aztec moniker is changed or removed, I promise I will never donate a penny to SDSU, and will frankly disavow the university. The fact that SDSU is caving to a small group of individuals instead of representing the
If the Aztec moniker offends, it should be replaced. It does not bother me, but I am white. If it offends others, please replace it.
If the Aztec Warrior is too controversial in terms of representation at games and events, maybe a different cultural representation of the Aztecs would be better, like a jaguar or a Quetzalcoatl or something.
If the indigenous find it offensive and racist, it should go. T
If the school were to keep a human mascot, make it appropriate and representative- not a man walking around with a loin cloth and conch. Also if the school were to lose the mascot all together it would be a great opportunity for marketing majors to work on rebranding the school.
If there are centurions and gladiators as mascots, then how is an Aztec warrior any different
If we change the mascot i will personally drop out
If we change the mascot, please think about how much this will cost our athletics program alone. Make it mandatory for students to learn about the Aztec people, but donâ€™t change the mascot.
If we get rid of the moniker "Aztec" because it is considered offensive, then Notre Dame should get rid of the moniker "Fighting Irish" because it is offensive to Irish Americans everywhere. Seems ridiculous, right?
If we keep the mascot students should have to take a class in learning about the history of the aztec :)
If you change the mascot, donâ€™t expect to get a dime from me when I own a billion dollar company.
If you decide to keep the name, I would still encourage mandatory courses of Indigenous and Native people to this land, many of us donâ€™t even know who the Aztecs are and many have no education about them and the Native people, yet we call ourselves one, and honor them through misrepresentation.
If you get rid of the Aztec mascot you will lose millions of dollars of funding from alumni. It is part of our history, stop being scared of the past.
If you guys are mad about having a Aztec as a fucking mascot you guys are fucking idiots. Keep it, people who say they are offended are offended for no reason you are praising the culture not attacking it
If you remove Aztec as our mascot then weâ€™ll be a school without any mascot. We should not mock our mascot but make it a legendary for those who are indigenous to feel proud. It shouldnâ€™t be racist but
If you take away our mascot you will truly be doing a disservice to our school. The removing of the aztec off of all surfaces on campus, clothing in the bookstore, and all websites and social media would be a very expensive measure in which we could use those funds elsewhere to benefit students current and incoming. The use of the aztec as our mascot honors and serves as a remembrance of our Aztec

If you want continued student passion then keep the Aztec name and warrior. We students see the Aztecs as prideful and strong and that is the idea characteristics to shine upon. WE ARE AZTECS!!!
I'm a Latino male who is glad that some part of my culture is represented.
Im a native/ Mexican American student who actually finds the moniker appealing. I feel like itâ€™s a great way to give my culture recognition. The Aztecs were a great warrior race, and their culture is interesting. I like it
I'm from South America, and as a descendent from a mixture of indigenous and europeans, I have learn about Indigenous in Latin America
I'm Mexican American and I like the idea of my school representing part of my heritage and culture. I think it should be done tastefully. I know along time ago the school made pow-wows. Things like that are offensive but I think the idea of being an Aztec when so much of my upbringing was against that part of my heritage was
Im Mexican, of Aztec descent, and by no means is it offensive to me to have the Aztecs as our mascot. We are honoring a very advanced and intelligent society
I'm Mexican-American and I've never understood this fetish people have with the Mexica/Aztecs. I recently learned more about mestizaje and Mexican identity, which has partly explained that obsession...but it's still
I'm proud to be an SDSU Aztec. It's a unique moniker that honors the the history and achievements of the Aztec empire. I would be very disheartened if it were replaced with some boring mascot like a bulldog or tiger.
I'm taking Amind 141 right now and I get the questions that may arise regarding our mascot but our mascot isn't presenting the indigenous people in a negative light. The mascot is there for positivity and represents school spirit. Also, it has been a part of SDSU culture for so long that I personally feel we should keep the Aztec
In general I think the mascot is problematic - however, what is especially problematic is the fact that we literally have a man dress up as an "Aztec" and run around beating his drum at sports games. It's highly stereotypical and in my opinion, completely inappropriate in the year 2018! I think SDSU is great in so many ways and should be a
In my opinion, the Aztec moniker is symbolic of strength and tenacity, and is quintessential to the identity of this fine school. I'm not sure how it is offensive; the Aztecs were a strong, resilient people, and I see the moniker and representation of it as honoring this great culture. Does this mean that Notre Dame is going to change the Fighting Irish moniker? USC change the Trojan moniker? No
In no way is it appropriate or respectful to take a culture/people and turn them into a symbol for people who have nothing to do with that culture. Mascots are animals. Mascots are not other people. It's barbaric and a way to subordinate another group of human beings. The ignorance towards the Aztec culture on campus is overwhelming and says something about the reality of having this moniker.
In terms of promoting dialogue "among stakeholders in the SDSU community," this dialogue should be centered around indigenous students who are directly affected by the mascot and its racist origins. The lack of action that the university has taken on changing the mascot is disgraceful. Stand by your mission statement of inclusivity and diversity and listen to indigenous students and their needs
Indigenous people are not costumes or mascots.
Indigenous Peoples are not a mascot
instead of trying to get rid of a symbol such as the aztecs, we should be better informing ourselves on the culture of the aztecs.
Instead of useless writing classes, Aztec or SD native history would be a more beneficial class option.
Is an anachronysm and a blatant loophole exploitation that SDSU is able to keep it's indigenous people "mascot", furthermore Aztecs were never part of the identity of the region.
It does not make sense to dress up as an Aztec with the argument that they are no longer a civilization anymore. We do not dress up as African tribes and say that we are excused to do so because they are no longer a
It doesnâ€™t matter if some people are offended by the name. In todayâ€™s world anything that can be taken the wrong way will be.
It gives me a sense of pride knowing the mascot represents my culture.

It helps no one to change the name, it is a strain on valuable resources. Do not waste your time with trivial matters, lets do something that MATTERS. Make student life better, give us a break on tuition, stop spending our money on things that DO NOT MATTER.
It is 2018. As the top university in the California State University System, do you all still need a survey to figure out whether the Aztec Moniker ought to go. Itâ€™s a travesty to Aztec Indigenous People, their culture, and quite simply their life to use them as a school mascot. Moniker
It is a tradition that means no offense if people dont like it because they think it is an inaccurate description then we should just be more informative for those who don't understand
It is absolutely imperative that we keep the Aztec moniker and live mascot. Students and alumni alike are proud Aztecs for life and cutting out the Aztec identity would cause a divide between valuable donor alumni and season ticket holders and the school, resulting in millions of lost dollars. I am a proud Aztec for life, let's keep it
It is appalling that alumni and non-indigenous people are taking up the task to fight for the Aztec moniker. The institutional legacy of the Aztec has never been one that is welcoming, culturally sensitive, and empowering to indigenous people. We need to move on from this and allow for educational opportunities regarding the Aztecs and other indigenous issues. Bring back Ozzie Monge.
It is cultural appropriation and harmful to keep the name Aztecs. It does not positively serve members from that culture/community, so SDSU should not profit from it.Keeping it further enables folks to mock and appropriate such cultures. I am not proud to represent myself as an "SDSU Aztec."
It is easy for a human moniker to become offensive, however I feel that in the case of SDSU it is more about heritage and preservation of culture. Our place as the Aztecs seems far more innocuous and positive than something like the Washington Redskins
It is impossible to oppress/discriminate against a culture that does not exist anymore.
It is not an offensive mascot but merely a different form a warrior that should be honored.
It is not fair that someone's culture and traditions are being used as a costume. If they have spoken up about how they feel about it, then we should respect and listen to them. Whoever was not brought up in native traditions, is simply not native by culture. Please remove this racist moniker.
It is only a mascot, as of mexican descent I do not find it offensive at all. On the contrary, I am rather excited my people are being celebrated and seen as fearless. The mascot is not derogatory and would I find it pointless to change the mascot. My family is very proud that I attend a university with a mascot celebrating my people, who by the way are mexican immigrants. Thank you for this
it is ridiculous if you change this mascot
It is ridiculous to consider changing the Aztec name.
It is time to show respect to group and stop using its image as a mascot.
It is weird that our name is aztecs but our logo is a bow and arrow. I didn't have a problem with the old logo of the school that is shared with montgomery high school. People are a little too sensitive to a fictional representation. Whether people like it or not, the aztec is part of the school's history and there is some value
It isnâ€™t racist at all. If anything it celebrates a violent culture but in no way it diminishes the Aztec name by being the mascot of SDSU.
It seems the selection process for the human Aztec Warrior is based on two criteria: being in good shape and being non-white. The current mascot appears to be of Asian descent. You should at least seek to select people of
It would be very dumb to change the mascot. I will never donate to the institution as an alumni if the mascot is changed under the current circumstances.
It would end up costing our school thousands of dollars rebranding our emblems and swag. Please do not change our current moniker. It is also very cool.
It would take too much time and money to change the mascot. Please keep It how It is.
Itâ€™s 2018. Letâ€™s stop this caricature.

Itâ€™s a hard line to be on. I think it needs to be known that students are not descendants of Aztecs. It needs to be put out that itâ€™s a mascot and in no way is it to demean the culture or people.
Itâ€™s a mascot and a good one. If anything, it is flattering to Aztec culture. Itâ€™s not like we have a mascot that beheads people atop a pyramid, which is also a part of their culture. Also, words like â€œcultural competencyâ€ are Newspeak and amount to nothing. Grow the hell up!
Itâ€™s a mascot, let it be!!!! Donâ€™t let liberals change our schoolâ€™s history!
Itâ€™s a mascot... itâ€™s not offensive. We donâ€™t need another history course so a couple of people stop complaining. This is ridiculous. â€˜Aztecs for lifeâ€™. Not till someone throws a tantrum and everybody tries to
Itâ€™s a moniker. If someone is that easily offended because we are the Aztecs, a long dead culture I might add, then I fear for their future in the real world
Itâ€™s an honor to have a part of ones culture be part of this school. I feel such pride when I hear SDSU announced as the Aztecs where ever I go.
Itâ€™s been the name and I like it.
Itâ€™s going to cost a lot of money to switch the mascot...again. Much of this school is proud of the mascot and many of the very vocal majority have very little ties to Hispanic/Aztec culture
Itâ€™s literally just a mascot. The amount of money, time, and rebranding needed to change it would cost the school millions of our money and hurt our reputation as a school. Just to please a very small minority of
Itâ€™s not offensive
Itâ€™s offensive and culturally-insensitive
Itâ€™s pretty difficult for me to talk about this subject because I truly canâ€™t believe that there are people who are stricken or offended by our mascot and what it stands for. The Aztec is our mascot that we proudly present ourselves as. I wish people would be less sensitive, to say it bluntly.
It'd be different if our mascot was one that was culturally relevant to our location, but the Aztecs aren't even from San Diego. Why not the Kumeyaay? You wouldn't name a school from Japan the "Natives" because it's not relevant to Japan. Likewise, you wouldn't name a team from Boston the "Samurai".
It's a mascot. People need to stop being so sensitive.
It's all about respect.
It's kind of A racist representation, especially the mascot.
It's not about doing what the people want , it's about doing what is right and only fair for our community. We have avoided this change for decades but we cannot avoid it for ever. It is time to change our name and mascot to something EVERYONE would feel proud to be and is not offensive to people.
It's pretty embarassing that we even have to create a task force for something that very few people are offended by. Just because a voice speaks the loudest doesn't mean that it speaks for everyone. Quit promoting a crybaby victim mentality among grown adults.
Its racist and you know it, stop pretending it isn't
It's really just the representation of the Aztecs that's bugging me. It feels insensitive and like a caricature.
It's rediculous that there is even a conversation about changing our school moniker. There is no valid reason to change it, its a part of the identity of this school. SDSU is known for being the "Aztec Warriors" alumni refer to themselves as such, taking it away takes away part of the schools identity. Also the only reason its being considered is because some people are overly sensitive.
It's ridiculous to change the mascot/identity!! Everything at the campus revolves around the Aztec culture, even the streetnames and all. It would cost so much to change everything and that money could be put to use somewhere else (ie fixing the music building!) Plus, we arent negatively representing the culture, if anything we all respect it. SDSU wouldn't be SDSU without the Aztec.
It's time to stop pretending that school monikers like the Aztecs are honoring a culture rather than appropriating
I've only respected the Aztecs more since coming to SDSU. If anything the Aztec Warrior is a respectful tribute to the Aztec culture, and I believe the majority of the student body agrees.

Just as USC has a Trojan warrior, the Aztec can be a symbol of power and strength, not a culturally inappropriate mis-representation of indigenous peoples.
Just don't change the mascot its a non offensive name if people really need to get rid of the representation of it but keep the name that is a compromise I feel many will make; however, this issue is one that a loud minority is forcing upon the rest of campus for no other reason than the mood they are in.
Just keep the damn Aztec. Geez.
Just keep the name. Itâ€™s what itâ€™s been called all these years. If people donâ€™t like it, theyâ€™re more than welcome to leave
KEEP AZTEC. There is nothing offensive about it in any shape of form. people try to creat problems for no reason and stir up pointless debates.
Keep is for sure and focus on more important things! you have to open more classes. Bio department is horrible! It's not acceptable to offer important classes ONCE a year cuz it suppose to UNIVERSITY NOT COMMUNITY COLLEGE. Do something helpful try to ask us about classes instead of changing something we LOVE AND PROUD
Keep it
keep it its absurd to scrap the school's history without a solid offensive reason
Keep it just get a fake mascot or something if people are triggered a non Aztec human is portraying one
Keep it respectful. Using the Aztec Warrior as a mascot is perfectly fine, we just need to keep it respectful. Also, I have not taken a measure of attaining cultural education specifically to the Aztecs, but I believe a mandatory course of Aztec history should be provided at SDSU.
Keep it!
Keep Monty.
KEEP OUR AZTEC!!!
Keep SDSU Aztecs. The school does not in any way demean the Aztec moniker. The Aztecs were formidible warriors and technologically advanced. It is an honor to have the Aztecs as a symbol of our school.
Keep SDSU the way it is... We are Aztecs because we want to Be Aztecs and are proud to carry that identify with us. Our mascot isn't offensive, but instead celebrates characteristics of the Aztec Warrior, such as bravery, strength, and the ability to not give up. I refuse to be anything but an Aztec.
Keep SDSU's rich cultural and academic history in tact. A change would destroy the campus' history, change the alma mater/fight song and so much more. Revist the resons why an Aztec was selected as the mascot initially
Keep the â€œAztecâ€ moniker!!! It is a way to HONOR indigenous people, NOT demean them! Reframe your outlook and instill a positive attitude instead of negativity. THAT also is an important mandate of a Universityâ€™s influence over the students & community. SDSU should be a force for good, NOT a divisive PC Big
KEEP THE AZTEC
Keep the Aztec
Keep the Aztec and stop crying like babies
Keep the Aztec but change the way it is represented and create educational material about the Aztec culture and indigenous groups
Keep the Aztec logo! Enough of this PC stuff!
Keep the Aztec moniker
Keep the Aztec name but it's important for students to learn the real truth as to how his school mascot became a part of SDSU culture.
KEEP THE AZTEC!
Keep the Aztec!
Keep the Aztec!!!
Keep the Aztec. Stop being pussies. Itâ€™s not meant to embarrass or humiliate people of Native American descent, but to commend the roots of this school. This shouldnâ€™t even be on the list of priorities, thereâ€™s far more important issues. For one, the safety of the students.

KEEP THE AZTEC. We honor their history using the Aztec as our mascot. We as students are proud to be Aztecs.
Keep the Aztecs
Keep the Aztecs. Thereâ€™s no good reason to get rid of it.
Keep the damn Aztec. Itâ€™s a staple of our school and our community. As a future alumni I would not feel connected if the Aztec moniker was removed and would feel less obliged to attend events and donate to my
Keep the fucking aztec
Keep the mascot please
Keep the mascot!!! Itâ€™s tradition. Itâ€™s more than just a mascot, itâ€™s our identity.
Keep the mascot, it was chosen for a reason. What gives you the right to change it.
Keep the mascot, stop trying to change it. Iâ€™m proud to be an Aztec.
Keep the mascot. This is a dumb debate. Spend your time on issues that actually matter.
Keep the mascot. Youâ€™ve been here a couple months and are already wanting change. Booooo
Keep the name and get rid of the Warrior
Keep the name and mascot. It looks cool and what else could justly replace such a longstanding name and
KEEP THE NAME AZTECS!!!
Keep the name, don't be soft
Keep the names and mascots, phase out any offense logos like the Cleveland Indians have done recently with
Keep this tradition alive!!!!
KEEP US THE AZTECS
Keeping a human minority as a mascot is degrading, dehumanizing, and racist. SDSU is better than that and this should be reflected in our moniker.
Keeping the same symbolism as those who went to sdsu prior to us gives us a sense of belonging.
Keeping the tradition of the Aztec is important! I agree that having a human mascot may be disrespectful but if we are educated on the culture, it is a beautiful tradition to keep!
Knowing some friends who are proud to say they are descendents of Aztecs, who are die-hard SDSU fans and alumni, I believe the moniker is more about a warrior than an indingenous people
Leadership starts here but we aren't leading the dialogue against cultural appropriation and are more concerned with alumni donations. It breaks my heart to see us so divided over this when students are demanding we do
Leave it it has not intentes to offend; it recognizes a heritage of SD
Leave the Aztec alone. My college experience is being an AZTEC. Donâ€™t ruin that legacy.
Leave the Aztecs name for SDSU. The name is being used to represent a student body that has pride. Iâ€™m proud to be an Aztec and future generations should have the same privilege.
Let the symbol of our great school remain as it is. Let's not be another victim of a society obsessed with forcing everyone to think alike, act alike, or speak alike. Llet's not be another overly sensitive, ultra-progressive, politically correct university. Please, lets stand up and be different.
Let's be less racist, as a native of San Diego, this disgusting display is a blight on our campus and city. Do what is
Let's get with the times and eliminate the moniker and the warrior. Stanford did it so many years ago and tho' painful for some people the place seems to have survived. SDSU can do the same.
Let's see if we can find something that's appropriate to SDSU and doesn't appropriate an indigenous group's
Literally everything about our school is based off of us having the name Aztecs: the dorm rooms, the street names, etc. everything would have to change and it wouldnâ€™t even be the same school anymore. It would be an embarrassment to go to a school where peopleâ€™s feelings are so fragile that they canâ€™t use the name Aztec without being offended. Plenty of other schools have similar mascot names.
Looking at the overall cost to change the Aztec shows that itâ€™s unnecessary. Especially as SDSU shows respect for the Aztec in the selection of Red and Black colors and the pride in the warrior. We arenâ€™t using it to exploit or harm people, so spending large sums of money to change it doesnâ€™t make sense.
Lose the mascot lose my alumni donation

Losing a prominent and well-known symbol for SDSU would result in a lack of identity for the current students and alumni. Please do ont change us from the mighty Aztec warrior.
Love the Aztec! Heâ€™s a warrior! Keep it :)
Love the Aztec. Keep. Keep. Keep.
Love this School!
MAGA
Maintaining the moniker is important to maintain the sense of pride and relation to the university existent among students and alumni. However, it is also important to recognize that using the aztec as a "mascot" can be offensive to some students and the university should evolve, be progressive, and make the changes needed to
Make freshmen take a course about it too satisfy a humanities ge
Make sdsu great again
Make the mascot a culture to be proud of, not an idiot in a costume
Make the mascot an Eagle or something like that so it's not culturally insensitive and still keeps the name "Aztec"
Makes no difference to me. I do not have time to attend any sports events while completing the rigorous demands of a physics degree
Many people including myself prior to learning about it this year) are oblivious to the history of Native Americans not only in this country but the Aztec history as well. Itâ€™s time to fix that .
Many professors at our school educate their student's about the Aztecs and their history. I find it a great honor to represent the Aztecs as a student-athlete.
Many schools have mascots named after people or cultures. I have never heard anyone use the Aztec in a derogatory way while being at SDSU. I think if anything should change you could get rid of the human representation of the Aztec, but donâ€™t change the whole school culture. I personally do not understand how having a fighting Aztec as our mascot is hurting anyone.
Mascot should be changed!!
Mascot should not be offensive if valued and the SDSU community understood the importance of their culture and why they are being honored.
Mascots are harmless and symbolize reverence and respect while honoring the history of the Aztec warriors.
Maybe changing the moniker and the Aztec Warrior would be a good idea but I donâ€™t see anything wrong or think that our current mascot is offensive or should be changed for ethical reasons at all.
Maybe if there was a really good alternate I would be willing to change, but getting rid of something because of political pressure is not democratic. Find a new mascot and let us vote. Donâ€™t just tear it away.
Maybe not for Aztecs in particular but we learn about indigenous people to our area in American Indian courses
Maybe we could be called "Arrows" or "Warriors" or "Spears" since there is already a lot of logos with that.
Mission trips to support Native tribes and courses about Native Americans.
Monikers based on groups of people are not inherently offensive, and are EXTREMELY common throughout all levels of educational institutions. Ditching the moniker would ditch the school's identity, alienate its alumni (money), and polarize (shrink) appeal before SDSU West hits the ballot. There is a balance that allows us to still be Aztecs and also be conscientious. We find that, SDSU wins.
Monty Montezuma provides the rather blood-thirsty, misogynistic culture a rather favorable cachet. Thankfully, that culture is no more. Montey is a great representative.
More emphasis on non-warrior Aztecs would be great.
Most people won't feel the need to be educated on the history of the Aztecs because they believe they already know everything they need to know and do not believe it to be offensive. This completely disregards and further distresses students who are Native. The negative effect this has on their mental health and education should matter more than the ignorant belief of both current and past student

my feelings towards this is that the aztecs are an ancient group, we don't get upset with schools for having their moniker being Vikings or Spartans, is Aztecs different? This being said, I am not of Aztec blood and if those who are are upset by us being the aztecs we should respect that and change it. I, however, don't see any issue with it.
My first semester at SDSU I took the CCS100 class that had a whole section on the history of the Aztecs. Knowing about the Aztec history is important because it enables one to understand the representation of the Aztec as power and courage. Those who find the Aztec symbol "insulting" certainly have not learned of the history
My great grandfather was a professor at san diego state university for many years before he retired and is a Cherokee Native American. It is disrespectful to use indiginous people's image for sport. Our country has done enough harm to them in history as is. This is one of the few wrongs we can correct though.
My heritage is part Aztec. I learned about it in a Chicano history class and since I was young I wanted to attend SDSU because it represent part of my heritage. I think providing more classes or general info in game flyers or monuments at school it could give the history of the bravery that Aztec warriors had. I have much pride in being not just culturally an aztec for life but through my educstuo
My mother is a North Dakota native and was devistated when the University of North Dakota changed its name from fighting sioux to the hawks. Most if not all of the local community opposed the change. In my opinion the aztec moniker is our soul, the heart of our community. Aztec means so much more than a name of a culture, it represents a spirit of strength, a tradition of honor, and a passion.
My only measure of attaining cultural education has been through the 3 AMIND classes that I have taken. The longer we wait to change the mascot, the more money it will cost in the future.
Myself, as well as everyone Iâ€™ve talked to, see the Aztec as a symbol of pride; the Aztecs were the best of the best, fierce, feared by their enemies for all of their strength and vast knowledge. Although not as technilogically advanced as eastern cultures, they had technology that far surpassed that of eastern culture. I dont See the Aztec as a mascot as a lesser being, but an advanced culture.
N/A
no one fits in the tiny desks in the classrooms, but dead indians are a bigger issue. ok
No one has a reason to be offended about cultural appropriation, especially if you aren't part of the said culture. Coming from someone who's a chicano and has Native American roots, I still can't be offended about it because I don't partake in the Aztec culture. Only people who partake in the said culture have the right to be offended about it, not people who have heritage, but not the culture.
Nobody is in any way trying to make fun of aztec culture. It's not offensive, our warrior humanizes them and makes them seem non barbaric. In fact its historically inaccurate as they were harsh people.
None
Number 3 is very confusing, because it is asked under the assumption that SDSU will keep the Aztec mascot.
Online reading about Aztec culture
OTHER STUDENTS IN THE SCHOOL WOULD PREFER TO KEEP THE MASCOT REGARDLESS IF IT OFFENDS OTHER PEOPLE. IT ONLY HURTING LIBERAL PEOPLE WHO FEEL THAT ANYTHING IS OFFENSIVE.
Our mascot does not represent Aztecs in a negative manner therefore should not be considered offensive. We use the Aztec to symbolize strength and a warrior mentality.
Our mascot of the Aztecs is an integral part to the SDSU student and alumni identity, and it is no different from USC Trojans or Oklahoma State Cowboys. Not only is the Aztec mascot deeply ingrained in our school culture and identity, it is used across all branding and would not be cost-effective to change. Think about how much it'll cost to change all Aztec references across campus.
Our mascot, especially the human dressed as an Aztec, is cultural appropriation.
Our new president is pandering to the small group of social justice warriors on campus instead of respecting the history and culture of SDSU. I am an AZTEC for life, and nothing else. I will not endorse anyone to attend SDSU, and quite frankly disassociate myself from SDSU if the Aztec Moniker is changed

Our school already enforces the Mexican stereotype of the "Haciend" Era, by using SPANISH architecture, therefore condoning the colonization of california by spain as well as forcing the Native Americans into missions in order to "civilize" them and make them assimiliate by stripping them of their culture. So by removing the Aztec mascot at least we can aplogize for our ignorance.
Our school does not represent the Aztec in a negative way. Our mascot is seen as a strong powerful force and it would be absolutely ridiculous to take that away.
Our school positively is repelresemting Aztecs. People take pride when they can call themselves an Aztec. It should be considered an honor and not in a negative light.
Our use of the Aztec is in a postive manner. It is seen as strong and we are all rapid to be represented by one
People and culture are not appropriate as mascots. The NCAA agrees, multiple schools, colleges, and universities agree, peer-reviewed research based studies agree, and the economic impact of changing the mascot has been shown to ultimately benefit the school. Don't be regressive and on the wrong side of history. Change the mascot.
People are too damn sensitive these days. The Aztec Warrior should be seen as a strong tribute to a ancient civilization which left no successor. If anything, people should be proud of the impact these people left behind.
People are too damn sensitive. Weâ€™re not gonna rewrite, and reprint, and fix everything because people are suddenly offended after decades of everything being okay. People just want to complain. Nobody is genuinely
People protesting over this are ridiculous. They're only upset because it's called a mascot. If it were referenced as the "school icon", it would be a much different story
People should not be mascots. One could argue that we are honoring them, but they are not a symbol. They are real people. Aztecs may not be around to put their say in, but regardless, it is much more culturally competent for in general mascots to not be human. If you want to stick to something close, make the mascot a golden eagle or any other animal associated with Aztec culture.
people's experiences and feelings should not be invalidated by the university just because of money
Perhaps a stylized Aztec bird or other animal that honors Aztec art and is accurately depicted.
Perhaps the human representation is a bit insensitive, but I believe the name is alright as long as an effort is made to actually educate people on who the Aztecs were and what their history was like.
Personally I like the idea that we are called Aztecs and some personfies an aztec because they were a great civilization and warriors. It also allows the hispanic community to remember their roots and ancestors. So personally Im proud that the student body is repesented by an Aztec warrior.
Personally I think our mascot is an honorable portrayal of the Aztecs. I'm not Mexican and I don't have indigenous Aztec roots, but I still think my opinion is valid. Our university does not mock the Aztec heritage, and having Aztecs as our mascot puts the Aztec culture in a positive light. This is much different than having a mascot
Personally, I believe many individuals are being very oversensitive regarding this issue. I can understand if we were mocking the Aztecs an any way; however, I think that students who go here are not only proud to be an Aztec, but also uphold the name with integrity and pride to all means. Changing the mascot and the Aztec moniker will change the very essence of what it means to be an Aztec.
Personally, I believe that any culture would find it weird if another country or people use their name or identity to identify as. Some people may find if cool that someone is rocking their culture, the truth is that all we are doing is taking the name, not anything else. I have met people who call themselves Aztec and they have asked why we call ourselves that when we don't carry the culture.
Personally, I believe the Aztec moniker is fine, but I can understand why people would want it changed
Please bring awareness to the issues surrounding the Aztec mascot. Iâ€™m a freshman and I have already taken 2 Amind classes and gave a speech about the real story of Christopher Columbus. Hepner Hall (on campus) is a model of the original where Junipero Sera tortured and killed natives. People who are not familiar with this topic will say the mascot is a tribute. Itâ€™s time SDSU changes its mascot!
Please change the mascot as that SDSU should represent all opinions

Please do NOT change the name...You will upset and disenfranchise MANY student & alumni here in San Diego and across the country. You will loose support and funding and you will regret this decision...
Please do not consider getting rid of the Aztec mascot. It is a classic and portrays the Aztecs in a positive way.
PLEASE DO NOT GET RID OF THE AZTEC!!!! IT'S OUR HISTORY!!!
Please do not remove/change SDSUâ€™s Aztec moniker. It is an integrated part of SDSU students identity, I applied to SDSU because I wanted to be an AZTEC.
Please donâ€™t change the identity of our school. It will potentialy agrivate the silent majority.
Please don't change it
Please dont change the mascot.
please dont destroy our identity as the Aztecs.
Please don't get rid of the Aztec mascot, it isn't offensive and is an important symbol to our school.
Please don't give rid of the Aztec!! As a person of mexican descent, I hold the Aztec mascot in my heart with
Please educate us about the Aztecs to help us be more tolerant and knowledgable
Please keep the mascot. I appreciate the effort to involve the entire community with this.
Please leave it as â€˜Aztecsâ€™.
Please make a new mascot, so no one can be offended. Don't listen to the alumni, do what's morally right to the Indigenous people. 95% of SDSU students don't know anything about the aztec culture, they just make assumptions. This '2018 Aztec' is ridiculous and racist (so is the representation of Hepner Hall)
Please note that the students who have proposed the name change are especially well-informed, because this issue of identity and appropriation affects their daily lives. While the rest of the country has resolved this, SDSU retains a tribe as a mascot simply due to the loophole of their existence outside of US borders. Our city's strong identity can be embraced through a variety of other icons.
Please note their name is not Aztec
Please put the Aztec moniker to rest. I know it is a difficult decision, but sometimes progress has to be made through difficult choices. The Aztec moniker is archaic and only works against SDSUâ€™s mission of promoting a welcoming and accessible campus for diverse students. This is a chance for SDSU to prove that it is proud of its
Please reveal your moniker task force. The student body deserves to know.
Please stop with this stupid social justice bullshit. As someone with Mexican heritage that takes pride in the Aztec moniker, i think itâ€™s racist to say that Mexicans and Hispanics should be offended by the Aztec name and mascot. Itâ€™s something we take pride in, and saying that we should be offended by it is wrong.
Please stop with this whole Aztec debate. It's crap like this that made people elect Donald Trump. Kids are getting too sensitive about EVERYTHING these days and it's getting old. So we're the SDSU Aztecs. So what. The Mexicans should be stoked that we chose their ancestors over all the other cultures of the world as our mascot. I
plz kys frfr
Presenting this change limits the culture that has been established here at SDSU. By representing the Aztec name, the student body is increasing overall knowledge of Aztec culture in a respectful manner.
Pretty much everyone knows the only reason weâ€™re keeping this mascot is because of alumni $$$
Professor Corlett of the Philosophy department had written a letter to President Weber, who at the time was dealing with this same issue. In his letter he explained a compromise plan to appease both sides of the polarized argument (keep the Aztecs or get rid of it all together). His proposal included funding Aztec artists to create sculptures of famous Aztecs to educate students. Contact him.
Proud to be an AZTEC!!
Quetzalcoatl for mascot
Quit being soft and do not mess up the long running tradition that has absolutely zero reason to be changed
Quit being soft, aztecs are a part of history. Keep the aztec warrior at SDSU, it is not offensive.
races of people should not be mascot names

Rampant social justice and politically correct viewpoints that are only present among a small vocal minority of students on campus is no reason to change the school's Aztec moniker that has been in place for decades.
Really it should not be up to the public to decide whether something like this is offensive or not. Just because it does not offend everyone is not a valid reason for keeping it, knowing that those who have a connection with Native American culture take issue with it.
Rebranding would result in spending our indispensable tuition dollars towards a trivial issue that could simply be solved by changing the mildly insensitive costume of our actual mascot. I'd much rather you redirect those unused rebranding funds towards my education.
Regarding my answer to number 3, those who wish to keep our mascot as it is do not care about how it affects others. Further educating them will do nothing unless they were truly unaware of what has been going on.
Regarding question 2, I believe that it would be possible to keep the human representation if the person who played the part of the warrior was of Indigenous descent. I would wholeheartedly support a course similar to Comm 103 that could be mandated for freshman to take that would give a history of the Aztec background so students could be more educated on our mascot.
Regardless of whether people decide to take measure of attaining cultural competency or education pertaining to Aztec/Indigenous People, the Aztec Warrior mascot does nothing but bring awareness to a cultural that would be forgotten otherwise. Those not affiliated with the tribe have no right in protesting the current mascot.
Removing the Aztec as our mascot is inherently Erasure of the Aztec culture. Going TO SDSU spurned my interest in the Aztec culture and I've learned more about Aztecs during my time here than anywhere else. Removing the Aztec mascot will further erase their cultural identity and history if the Aztec is removed from a
Removing the Aztec as our mascot would be a waste of money and would be detrimental to school spirit.
Removing the Aztec mascot would be an ignorant thing for SDSU to do. I would be ashamed of our administration if they cowered to a hypersensitive minority group on campus. It would be a spineless move by
Removing the name Aztec might be the dumbest proposal at this school so far. Same with the mascot
respect of indigenous people is important! nobody wants their identity to be used as a costume
Retire the mascot and moniker! #NotYourMascotSDSU
Retiring the mascot is essential to the wellbeing of our native and indigenous students
San Diego State University is and has been known as the aztecs. I don't think it's a good idea to change an entire schools mascot name. If it is such a sensitive thing to the indigenous people then their ancestors should have stopped the naming a long time ago. The last that could be done is what the Cleveland Indians have done with
SDSU Aztec has been representing the school in the community and creating strong positive associations between alumni and the Aztec moniker.
SDSU Aztecs have been a pride and joy for the both the student body and the community for decades. Considering people of the indigenous culture, such as myself, find the Aztec to be a celebration of my peopleâ€™s ancestors, I find the idea of removing him as â€œcultural policing.â€ Save our Aztec.
SDSU Aztecs is commonly a logo on shirts and other merch. To someone of that race it would be like if it was called SDSU Irish or SDSU Japanese. There are a myriad of other mascots we could have or AT LEAST we should ask those who are indigenous, even if it is simply some of the groups on campus such as MECHA, what alternatives could be used or how it can be improved. This survey is a step :)
SDSU buildings are similar to old town San Diego. In Balboa park, the Museum of Man is also contain Mayan, Aztec replicas. "Aztec" has somewhat become the identity of San Diego. It would be nice to have an Aztec stone carving in SDSU iconic building.
SDSU could develop a greater academic understanding of the Aztecs etc and become the dominant institution for such research. P.S. I am an alumnus....coould not find the alumni comment survey.....

Sdsu does not portray the culture of the Aztecs in a negative manor. I see their culture being represented in a very powerful way. I think that having some sort of monument that provides a history of the Aztec culture would be beneficial. However, I think that Sdsu should keep the aztec moniker and I think that the human representation of the aztec warrior should stay as well.
SDSU does not use the Aztec in a disrespectful way and I feel that it should stay!
SDSU has been build upon being the Aztecs. If we change the name of the Aztecs we are loosing our identity. Everyone student, staff, and parent that have been through SDSU are Aztecs for Life. What will we be if we are not Aztecs? Aztecs are unique. I donâ€™t want to be the Bears or the Cougars or something generic. There is history and tradition behind our name. I am an AZTEC for life.
Sdsu has been known as Aztecs since the school was opened. What better tribute to a culture that representation through education or an educational institution.
SDSU has never disgraced the Aztec culture. The fact that this is still an issue is ridiculous because there has never been anythig racist about the way we represent Aztecs. We are honoring the culture and it is a great
SDSU is and should always be the Aztecs!
SDSU is proud to be represented by the mascot. We do not aim to mock or appropriate any culture, instead we are proud to shine light on the people who are the foundation of the San Diego area.
SDSU needs to retire the Aztec mascot and moniker - it is harmful to students of color, particularly Native American and indigenous students. There are descendants of the Aztecs and Mexica who still exist today and it is extremely dangerous to present them as a thing of the past. The mascot is racist and reinforces stereotypes - there is nothing to debate or discuss. #NotYourMascotSDSU
SDSU needs to stop being racist and retire the mascot and moniker!
SDSU pays tribute to Aztec culture by being a reputable, intelligent, and competitive community. We engage in athletic and intellectual competitions against other universities with the aim of conquering our opponents, lest we end up conquered ourselves.
SDSU should ask individuals of that heiritage and if they find it to be offensive the name and mascot should be
SDSU should keep the aztec name and representation. SDSU students are the best embodiment of what the aztecs stood for, we are strong, resilient and we look for the truth, AND WE DO NOT BEND TO THE OUTSIDE PRESSURES. The Aztecs are gone, they were wiped out a very long time ago. Let us continue their legacy, changing SDSU in this way would destroy the SDSU community.
SDSU should keep the name Aztecs because I feel that it represents a group if people that no longer exist on the Earth. The school should offer more resources to educate students about the Aztec culture so that students can fully appreciate and understand what it means to be an Aztec and keep honoring their culture.
SDSU should move away from using the Aztec moniker. I believe it is highly disrespectful to indigenous cultures to co-opt the name of an entire people as a mascot. I feel it would be much better to find a way to honor the legacy of the university and the name in a different way. I personally refuse to purchase ANYTHING with Aztec/spear branding on it as well and don't call myself an "Aztec."
SDSU should not remove the mascot because it is the identity of the University. Alumnus identity with it and the argument that it is offensive because of cultural appropriation is confusing because the Aztec people are not even around today to comment on the matter.
SDSU should remain the Aztecs. Our moniker is NOT racist or demeaning. If anything it honors the Aztec people and provides a positive, strong, and fierce representation of our school. Our entire identity is built on the Aztec people and what they represent being called and represented as Aztecs is an honor. It's shameful that removing our moniker is even being considered.
SDSU, this is long over due. Embarrassingly, we are one of the few colleges that continue to stereotype and exploit indigenous people. It's true, Google it.
SDSUâ€™s current representation of the Aztec warrior is one of respect. We display a powerful and enthusiastic image and respect the Aztec warriorâ€™s image.

Seems like cultural appropraition to me, I am an international student from Australia and it's the first thing I thought when I saw it and I was surprised that when at the basketball game the mascot was there looking the
Sociology, counseling and social change, American Indian studies
Sometimes change isn't the answer...
Stop being politically correct fascists. Let sdsu go under the name the aztecs, if you're actually offended by it, I recomend immediate therapy and cousneling for being that sensitive to a branding marketing mascot.
Stop being so sensitive. Itâ€™s a mascot and name that has stood since the founding of the university. It wasnâ€™t a big deal back then and it shouldnâ€™t be now. Just leave it alone.
Stop being soft
Stop caving to the Ultra-PC, Left....you are caving in to the hecklers veto.
Stop making issues out of nothing. Youâ€™re creating a culture of self victimization and causing pointless division within the SDSU community.
Stop this is too much
stop this political correctness trend! political correctness is faschism pretending to be manners! we are aztecs for life, we are the soul and heart of sdsu, not whatever skincolor we have. the truth will never be silenced
Stripping away what is an identity to thousands of graduates/an entire community to suit the opinions of a minority group (that group being those who do not understand the Aztec moniker and are therefore making an issue of it and demanding a change) would be absolutely ridiculous and a disgrace to SDSU. Not to mention the issue of where people expect the funds for complete rebranding to come from.
Students call themselves Aztecs but do they know anything about the Aztecs other than that they were indigenous peoples of Mexico? On campus, there is a building named Olmeca if you get rid of the Aztec will you rename this building too? What will the Aztec be replaced with? As a Chicana, I say keep the name but only if SDSU does more culture inclusive events focused on the history of the Aztecs.
Take pride in what is in place since the beginning of this school because anywhere you go there is alumi amd the community who knows we are the aztecs. I am hispanic and I am from mayan roots but you dont see me complaining about being an aztec, my roots fellow rival.
Taking away a mascot we are appreciating as a hero takes away the awareness that the intelligent and strong aztec warriors that once were.
Taking away the Aztec as being our school mascot is a huge mistake. Our mascot is a symbol for current students, alumni, incoming students, and those thinking of attending SDSU. As an athlete, the Aztec mascot is one of the things that fuels an athletes play in order to bring pride to our team, school, and community. The Aztec is a symbol of strength that we hope to draw from
Taking away the Aztec name and the mascot is the most ridiculous move that this school could make. It is an attack on the foundation, prestige, and the soul of this university as a whole. Do not succumb to the peer pressure of this futile "politically correct" crusade that has been started by people with nothing to do in their lives. Be strong... Stand up to them... AZTECS FOR LIFE!!!!!!!!!!
Thank you for asking this! A professor wrote an editorial that explained it well (sorry I cannot find the link). It's absurd that it has taken this long, but the fact that you're asking bodes well. Those who want to keep it, should speak to a living Aztec and learn about their history, irrigation, hieroglyphic writing, and religion.
Thank you for the survey.
Thank you for this survey! It gave me a voice as a student!
that is the vaguest fucking survey explanation I have seen in my entire life. Lord. adding some indigenous culture classes is a thing you should do anyway -- but it won't make the aztec moniker any less racist.
The AZTEC moniker is offensive or derogatory The Aztecs were a group of people whoâ€™s culture and native garb represents power of passion and hard work. Just as the St Maryâ€™s Gael is an Irish warrior. I'm unclear why this is even an issue. I'm PROUD to be an Aztec!

The argument that SDSU is "honoring the Aztecs" is highly inaccurate. You cannot honor a population when your campus' architecture concurrently glorifies a place and era in which rape, genocide, and slavery occurred.
The Aztec as a mascot is offensive.
The Aztec as a moniker and mascot comes up as an issue every year at SDSU. Our region of the U.S. has no cultural or historic ties to the Aztecs as a people. Just can the mascot and moniker and let the student body choose to be the banana slugs or the dirt bags or something equally banal and silly.
The Aztec culture runs deep in the whole of the surrounding area, especially since the cultures focal point was in Mexico. We shouldn't be trying to change pur mascot that we are proud of because some people find it offensive. Everything is offensive these days! People of Aztec descent aren't offended, and don't think it should
The Aztec has been the mascot for SDSU for a long time, it is a tradition, we and spent many years giving the Aztec the glory of its name. When other universities hears of Aztec, they know who we are as we made the name for ourselves. If we change our name to like the banana slugs, we lost a part of SDSU. Aztec has been the mascot for years. It's just a mascot, it's not a big enough deal to change
The Aztec has the potential to be a powerful and honorable mascot without being offensive. Freshmen should be required to take a course on the native people who inhabited San Diego. The aztec is a great mascot, but the human mascot at footbal games can be considered offensive and should probably be revised.
The Aztec is a cool mascot. It's a sign of respect for the actual Aztec's in my view because we are saying we think you and your traditions are cool.
The Aztec is a proud warrior. The name isnâ€™t meant to bring shame to a culture. Itâ€™s meant to empower us. We have and should always be known as the Aztecs.
The Aztec is a representation of a past culture. Should we not represent any culture at any level then?
The Aztec is a symbol of pride and dignity for the students of SDSU. While we could benefit from classes about the histories of the Aztec people, taking away our schools mascot would be stripping us of our identity as students of one of the best schools in the country.
The Aztec is history to our school and to the San Diego community. It would be a shame to see it go. The Aztec is legendary and will keep the history of SDSU to years to come.
The Aztec is not a negative representation of the race. It is a strong mascot with thousands of people that rally behind it for our athletics. Also, a multi-million dollar rebranding campaign is not what this school needs right now. The money could be benficial elsewhere.
The Aztec is not offensive. I understand the argument to have the Washington Redskins change their name. However, I fail to understand the offensive nature of the SDSU mascot being an aztec. If anything, this is a celebration of the Aztec people. Changing it would be ridiculous and unwarranted.
The Aztec is our identity at sdsu. It gives us something to unite behind. The aztec warrior is a strong figure that gives stidents their purpose at state. Everywhere students go, alumn shout "Go Aztecs!" even if they are
The Aztec is shown as a symbol of strength. I say this as a person of color.
The Aztec mascot and moniker is a tribute to the Aztec tribe and the tradition of San Diego State. Alumni and current students are proud to embody this symbol and view it as an honor to the Aztecs. It would be extremely detrimental to our school and morale to remove it due to a small minority of people who feel offended
The Aztec mascot and name needs to be changed.
The Aztec mascot has been at SDSU for years. There is no harm done in keeping the mascot and is ridiculous to change it. Many other schools have similar mascots and it is not a problem.
The Aztec mascot is a part of the schools history. It is in no way trying to offend any people and if you took that away from the school it would be devastating. Alumni will stop funding I will be ashamed to be apart of this group that took away this mascot from the school.
The Aztec mascot is a positive portrayal of an Aztec warrior, and was designed to be historically correct. It is a way to incorporate Aztec culture into our own campus, and educate students. it is a very unique mascot loved by many, and removal would split the community and take away a very large part of our identity.

The Aztec mascot is extremely inappropriate and offensive to those of Aztec and/ or indigenous heritage and should be replaced immediately to eliminate the idea that indigenous people are less than human and that it is ok to make them a mascot.
The Aztec mascot is in no way being represented as Insensitive. If anything the Aztec culture is being praised by our university. This issue has been covered already a year ago and the result was clear that the student body did not want to change the Aztec moniker. If the Aztec moniker is changed then the entire sentiment of Aztec for life will mean nothing and state will lose all alum support
The Aztec mascot is just as offensive as the Washington Redskins, and the human representation of the Aztec warrior is a caricature of indigenous people. There are plenty of potential substitute mascots that do not appropriate marginalized cultures, and it's time for SDSU to join the 21st Century.
The Aztec mascot is racist. There is no history behind the mascot that can â€˜belongâ€™ to SDSU.
The Aztec moniker and human representation should remain in place, however the mascot should be displayed in such a manner that it is not overly caricaturistic,
The Aztec moniker and representation have always been intended to be an honorable homage. The university ought to resist efforts by activists to browbeat it into bland political correctness.
The Aztec moniker has been a staple of SDSU and changing it would disrespect the millions of alumni, current students who take pride in being Aztecs, and any future Aztecs that dream of being a part of our SDSU culture as
The Aztec moniker has been in place for many generations of SDSU graduates. To most the Aztec is viewed as a strong courageous warrior. Leave it alone and focus on something more important like why the school insists on taking money from students in some departments in the form of mandatory study abroad.
The aztec moniker is a moniker of stature and pride and should be treated with pride and respect. That is why it must remain a part of our beautiful university
The Aztec moniker is a part of the schools culture and school spirit and I feel that upon the removal of it it would damage the school spirit.
The Aztec moniker is full of history and spirit for this school. We are "Aztec Proud" and do not intent to insult Aztec culture in any way. I fully support the use of the Aztec moniker.
the Aztec moniker is grounded in racists views and place Native Americans in the past. The moniker is offensive to Native Americans like the Kumeyaay and Indigenous peoples from Latin America. Native Americans are not
The Aztec moniker is highly associated with SDSU and has become apart of this school's identity. We should try to embrace and better represent Aztec culture rather than remove it entirely from our school.
The Aztec moniker is in no way ethnically demeaning. Many other colleges and sports teams use mascots with tribal names, such as the Seminoles, Braves, and Apaches just to name a few. And on top of the, California really is Mexico, but Americans took it from them. On the other hand, derogatory names such as Redskins should
The Aztec moniker is not offensive and should not be changed, this was already a motion last year and a re vote is not yet in order
The Aztec moniker is not offensive. SDSU needs to stop behaving like a bunch of little snowflakes and recognize the the Aztec moniker represents a powerful warrior, something that is respected. SDSU students call themselves aztecs as a symbol of pride. Changing the mascot would mean we are not proud of our school, which
The Aztec moniker is part of the history of SDSU. When people at this university call themselves Aztecs, they do not do it out of ignorance or with any offense toward them. They say it with pride. The Aztecs were great warriors who ruled over the northern part of Mexico for years, and I just donâ€™t see how anyone could be offended that we strive to be regarded in that same greatness.
The Aztec moniker is racist and should be removed from SDSU
The aztec moniker is used on campus for promotion and branding, but the same level of support is not available to indigenous people on our campus or efforts to promote education
The Aztec moniker should definitely stay, as it is not meant to be offensive. We say "Aztec for life!" with pride and it would be shame if we were no longer able to say that anymore.

The Aztec moniker, warrior, and title are symbols of pride and are honoring the successes of a population. It is not cultural appropriation or demeaning.
The Aztec name and representation should remain, however to appease both sides of the argument, I feel as though measures can be taken to historical represent and honor the mascot. Therefore, no racism can be detected from the representation and the established name of the Aztec can remain.
The Aztec name and warrior are taken from a culture that lived no where near the location of SDSU, and in addition it is on par with the racism of the Redskins Football team and the Indians Baseball team. Please change
The Aztec name here at SDSU represents education, higher level thinking, prestige, honor and isnâ€™t held here in the most respectful manor.
The Aztec name is a mainstay, long associated with San Diego State. We should keep the Aztec moniker, but it doesn't seem necessary to have a human representation of an Aztec.
The Aztec name is what makes SDSU special. It pays tribute to the pride of the Aztecs and their verocity as warriors serves our athletics well. Being an Aztec is why I chose to come to this school rather than pursue my degree online at another institution. My mother's side of the family are from Mexico and Chile, and they are proud of La Raza and the Aztec culture. Also the SD logo is on point
The Aztec name should stay but having someone dress as an Aztec might be a little disrespectful.
the aztec people are an extinct group. we aren't mocking their appearance or way of life. if anything we are idolizing their existence. they were known to be a strong empire and strong people, this is represented through our mascot and pride to call our selves aztecs.
The Aztec people were a powerful and proud nation that are a tremendous part this region's history. What better a name to call ourselves? I am proud to call myself an Aztec as I'm sure are countless generations of SDSU alumni. Changing the name not only makes no sense, it would also be s slap in the face to the multitude of students, faculty and alumni who proudly bare the name Aztec!
The Aztec people were a proud nation with many qualities whose imitation should be understood as a compliment, not an offense.
The Aztec Spirit Leader is a prideful and I believe respectful aspect of SDSU.
The Aztec Spirit Leader is something that I am prideful of. We truly try to honor the Aztec culture in an accurate and thoughtful manor.
The Aztec symbol is a valuable symbol for the university and for the city of San Diego. The Aztec is portrayed in an honorable fashion, as a heroic and brave warrior. The Aztec mascot must remain.
The aztec symbol is not used in a derogatory way in this case, we are proud of calling ourselves Aztecs, and if anything it glorifies the culture, not degrade or demean it. We are proud to call ourselves Aztecs.
The Aztec Warrior honors the Aztecs even if it is not an accurate or exact depiction.
The Aztec Warrior is a proud ,strong symbol that pays respects and makes people remember the tribe
The Aztec warrior is a symbol of pride for students at San Diego State. The Aztec culture was one that was feared and known for its grand civilization in the Americas. I think taking this away really does nothing but lead to a lack of knowledge about the culture and people of the Aztecs. Instead of taking our mascot away, why donâ€™t we continue to educate students and staff on the importance of it.
The Aztec warrior is not derogatory, it's quite the opposite, it's a tribute to the warriors of a Mexican empire that flourished. It's quite a honor to be called a SDSU Aztec and know that our school mascot draws parallels with
The Aztec Warrior is not offensive it is glorifying that culture not mocking it. When I think of the Aztec I think of words like strong, thriving, culture, and leaders - all positive words that closely match SDSU. If anything the mascot is giving this fallen empire a new life, not poking fun at it. To not only remove the mascot is removing SDSU's history, but awareness of the culture.
The Aztec warrior is not something that we should be ashamed of. Aztecs were strong and a very progressive society in terms of equality and rights. The Aztec is from Hispanic culture and has nothing to do with native Americans, argument about mascot is inaccurate. It's very important to maintain the Aztec warrior because it is

The Aztec warrior is part of the SDSU tradition. Please keep him!
THE AZTEC WARRIOR MASCOT IS NOT OFFENSIVE!
The Aztecs and related tribes/peoples are an awesome part of the history of our continent and should be celebrated. Those taking issue with it are simply virtue-signalling, attention seekers who should not be taken
the Aztecs and SDSU are interchangeable words. Aztec culture has been a part of SDSU for all of its history. If the Aztecs are taken away, so is SDSU
The Aztecs are a very important symbol for athletes who have immense pride in the ability to represent our school and a culture. The Aztec warrior and the name Aztecs is an important symbol of a school and a culture.
The Aztecs name and especially the mascot can come across as rather offensive to the Indigenous people and their way of life. As a very diverse campus near several Indigenous tribes I feel it would be best to change the moniker to something that is inclusive of all people and all lifestyles.
The Aztecs were a noble culture and it is very special for SDSU to continue represent, remember, and honor the
The Aztecs were a proud and dynamic people who would not feel they were being needlessly â€œappropriated.â€ I have always been just as proud to be an Aztec since 1972. (Donâ€™t panic: I missed the alumni survey, so Iâ€™m responding now as a grad student.)
The Aztecs were a proud warrior people. The SDSU Aztecs are a proud community that fights on the sports field and fights on the academic level to honor the Aztec name.
The Aztecs were a real people and that was their real name. There is no hate, bigotry, or insult in having it as the university mascot. It's no different than having the mascot of "Vikings" and having a picture of a Viking as the
The Aztecs were one of the most advanced ancient civiliazations. Though there were aspects of their society that we donâ€™t like, their advancedness (?) is commendable and seems like it would be a good moniker for an
The Aztecs were real people! As a higher learning institution, having any sort of people as Mascots is ignorant
The biggest problem I have with having the Aztecs as the mascot is making someone dress up and also seeing merch with a racist caricature of indigenous people. I think this may be on old merch but I really hope using that image has stopped. However, we should also take into consideration that the Aztec civilization isnâ€™t a thing anymore in comparison to the redskins (current native tribes).
The character should remain how it is, it can be beneficial and teach those (out of state and foreign exchange student), in state, and residency about the importance of the Aztecs and Indegienous People.
The culture from which the Aztec comes from is a culture that does not belong to anyone other than the people who created it and continue to be a part of it. It is our responsibility as students, faculty, staff, and the university as a whole to respect something that isnâ€™t ours. Considered what this community has been through and whether you want to continue to contribute to their marginalization.
The current mascot is not offensive. Please do not change it.
The endorsement of negatively stereotyping the Aztecs is a disgrace. It makes the institution look really bad in creating an environment in profiting from another person't culture and making fun of them. This is why people in power need to be educated about micro-aggression and endorsing such behaviors. That is not being an inclusive institution to promote positive inclusion for all students.
The extent of sensitivity is ridiculous.
The extent to which most SDSU students know about the Aztecs is limited and shallow, and the depth of the Aztec identity (stemming from the interest in Aztecs)instilled in each student who claim to be a "proud Aztec" is questionable. If tradition and convenience of keeping the name is the only reason for keeping the mascot, we may have to reconsider what else we will keep in the name of tradition.
The fact that education about the Native Peoples of the US isn't required as part of the GE standards is absurd. Why is it necessary for me as a non stem major to take a Physics, Astronomy, or Chemistry (which I will never need in my field) but not a class on indigenous people? Which is more culturally, politically, and socially relevant? It's the kind of education that would benefit ANY major.

The fact that people believe that an Aztec mascot is considered "racist" when we fully support the school it represents, is purely comical. Add in the fact that the same people believe the architecture surrounding us is also "racist", makes their discussion on this issue obsolete.
The fact that we are having this conversation again, year after year, is embarrassing. Iran obvious the majority of people want the Aztec, and a vocal minority will not relent. We have already spoken up. We need to stop rehashing this each year, itâ€™s just ridiculous
The financial impact would be massive, money would be better spent into education
The history surrounding this university and the Aztec name is incredible and it should be here to stay!
The human representation is only racist due to the blatantly "red" skin. That should definitely change.
The human representation of the Aztec Warrior would preserve the honorable and historic representation of the Aztecs. It is likely that without human representation an unfavorable illustration may emerge.
The idea that people want to change the name is upsurd. The small population of students that wish to change the name have made this a bigger ordeal than it needs to be. If SDSU were to change the name, they would loose mass amounts of funding from alumni. It would be a waste of time and money.
The identity of the university is the Aztec. To change the mascot for the sake of political correctness would be disrespectful to previous Aztecs who dedicated their efforts in creating the identity of SDSU.
The image of the Aztec Warrior is one of the reasons I picked SDSU. This city produces Marines and Navy Seals, it should have a university that veterans would be proud to attend. If you get rid of the Aztec Warrior, you won't get another dime from me. Everyone can be offended by something, and I'm offended by your sensitivity and
The last question is very unclear but makes it sound like individual students are responsible for educating themselves, and like it's okay to have Aztecs as a mascot if we do.
The main reason why I am behind changing the mascot is because of the reaction from other students and my peers. I have Native American friends who have fought hard in these past years to change the mascot and feel very strongly about the issueâ€“ for this reason I stand with my peers.
The main reason why I think that we should at least change the mascot is because it dehumanizes a group of people who were and still are human. We are reducing them to a symbol and a idealistic concept, even if it's in a positive context. It's similar to the Rednecks controversy. Instead we should go for something that is not human.
the mascot and culture are fine. People are reaching to make us view it as racist
The mascot and moniker is a racist image with a racist history. Do better for ALL your students, Respect ALL your
The mascot and name is in no way offensive
The mascot has been treated with the utmost respect and pride, and is a symbol of strength and power for our
The mascot is completely racist. Think of a Native American politician, scientist, CEO, author, etc. that you know of. Now think of a Native American mascot. I'm guessing you were able to think of more Native American mascots than those who are well known/hold positions of power. Imagine what that is doing to Indigenous youth who see racist/stereotypical mascots. It's time for change.
The mascot is good. It represents a warrior which I think is really cool
The mascot is racist, whether you choose to justify it or not, that difficult truth remains. A true leader must look to the future, be brave, and make the right decision to change it.
The mascot is racist. Retire it.
The mascot was picked by 3 people in the 20s, outside of the input of the student body in an environment of white supremacy and basic lack of historical understanding. The mascot remains an example of the 'Noble Savage' myth and its continued use by the university undermines any claim this institution has to being an
The minority does not represent the whole; thus, changing such a historic and iconic part of SDSU would be
The moniker and mascot of the Aztec Warrior are something that is unique to SDSU, itâ€™s famous, everybody knows it and everyone loves it. SDSU should remain the Aztecs and keep the mascot. Changing the mascot and moniker makes about as much sense as Apple or Microsoft changing their name and logo. SDSU honors the

The moniker has been part of SDSU for a very long time. It just wouldn't feel right to remove the moniker or the human representation of the Aztec Warrior. It's what gives our school spirit and represents SDSU. #Aztec4Life
The moniker or name should not be changed whatsoever. I truly believe it would hurt the school as a whole. I feel like a small sect or students shouldn't speak for the entire school and thousands of alumni.
The name "Aztecs" isn't bad in any way, its not a racial slur and it isn't an insult, it was the name of a warrior tribe. Montezuma being the actual mascot isn't bad either, he was an actual king for the Aztecs. I don't think this should be seen as an issue, for it isn't even slightly as controversial as the name "The Redskins."
The name â€œAztecsâ€ should not be degrading. If anything it is paying homage to the original people from this area. Getting rid of the name would soon lead to less appreciation and education about the indigenous people.
The name Aztec does not mock the ancient people, unlike the name Redskins which is considered a slur. The SDSU logo is in no way making a caricature out of the ancient warrior, in the same way that the name Vikings is not considered offensive. Unless people of Aztec descent feel mocked or insulted by SDSU, as a person of native descent myself, I do not feel that it is insulting.
The name Aztecs is not derogatory in any way and Iâ€™m my opinion it honors the tribe.
The name had to stay. But education could be improved
The name is only being questioned because it is an ancient (DEAD) civilization of non white people. Yes they were violent, but so were the Trojans and that is a very heavily used mascot. However, people think that since it is a white civilization that was violent and now gone, people do not going around saying that the mascot Trojan is demeaning. Our mascot is not meant to be offensive or a cartoo
The name is racist and stupid. Let the kids choose a new name and they will love it forever because itâ€™s theirs and they can be proud of it because itâ€™s NOT racsist.
The only way to keep and maintain the current mascot would be only if the school did more in the realm of institutional reparation for descendants of the peoples SDSU is profiting from.
The people fighting this issue have no right to fight it. As someone who can â€œidentifyâ€ as Aztec, I can guarantee you that no one from Aztec lineage actively identifies themselves as Aztec nor care about the representation an American school depicts.
The people who complain dont contribute money or time to sdsu, screw em
The portrayal and use of the Aztec as a mascot is an inconsiderate practice. There have been numerous times when local tribes have come forward to express their dissatisfaction with the school's use of their ancestry as a mascot and I believe there should be steps taken to honor their wishes and move toward a neutral mascot for
The removal of the Aztec mascot and moniker will not negatively affect SDSU pride or community; our campus family is stronger than that. It will only promote visibility of all voices on campus, and reflect our schoolâ€™s willingness to change for the better in a progressive society.
The removal of the Aztec moniker would only hurt the reputation of SDSU. "Aztecs" is not a slur and does not degrade anyone's culture, therefore there is no reason to change the name.
The school has been tied to the Aztecs for so long that it would be more of an inconvinience to change it now than it would to add an online training for cultural awareness. We are Aztecs for life.
The school would lose a lot of money if the mascot were changed.
The Seminole Tribe in Florida has said theyâ€™re honored to be the mascot of FSU, and we arenâ€™t presenting Aztec culture in a negative way.
The state name Oklahoma is an indian tribe/leader name. If they can keep the name of their state, it wouldn't make any less sense for us to keep our mascot name. Also, the term aztec in our setting is used as a prideful term that we are proud to be able to represent the aztec name. Also, changing the name would cost our school a
The trouble stems from boiling down an entire culture into a single mascot character.

The use of the Aztecs for this campus's mascot is racist. The architecture is clearly Spanish Missionary influenced. An establishment used to oppress the indigenous people of Latin America. Keeping the mascot shows that our school is ignorant of California's rich history, or choosing to ignore the obvious paradox of being called Aztecs with Spanish Missionary architecture.
The use of the term Aztec to me is not considered derogatory like the use of the redskins. As a majority native Mexican Indian i am proud of the school name
The use of tradition as an excuse for maintaining practices and symbols which devalue respect and equality is an enemy to progress, and equality itself.
The vast majority of students love the aztec. Put a table out on campus - ask them not through a survey that may not reach everyone but in person interaction. The extremely tiny group of people that sees it as offensive don't realize how much the SDSU community values and appreciates the symbolism and culture associated with the Aztecs and our school. Keep the Aztec moniker and educate us on it!
The voices that are pushing against the Aztec moniker do not accurately represent the student body at SDSU. Donâ€™t let the desire for political correctness ruin our spirit. I am an Aztec. Iâ€™m Aztec proud. I will be an Aztec for life even if you try to take it away. Thank you
The way the university has handled this issue has been rather poor, ranging from the task force being secretive to the fact this is an issue despite the recent decision to keep the Aztec.
The. Aztec. Is. Not. Racist.
Then knowledge I have of the Aztecs is from history class in school
There are currently no humans alive today that are aztecs, they died out in the 1500s. I'm not sure who's to say it is appropriation of a culture if no one from that culture is alive.
There are greater issues facing SDSU students other than the mascot. Such issues include; rising tuition costs, parking availability, safety and classroom sizes.
There are instances when mascots of native peoples to the America are made in poor taste. As someone who relishes the Aztec mascot as a symbol of curlture for many people here, I do not feel it does this. The university gives reverence to the civilization and does not make a mockery ours of it. If the moniker is changed I donâ€™t see myself contributing financial support to this university.
There are much greater issues to deal with.
There are no victims here. No reason to change it. If we allow the feelings and whim of every random person to change anything they want then there will be nothing left.
There are so many universities with more offensive mascots than an aztec. I know that changing the school mascot will result in an enormous loss of school pride and spirit. Please think about the students in your decision, not the outspoken few. Thank you.
There is no need to change our mascot. It is a way of honoring the Aztec culture not dishonoring it or trying to make it offensive. I have always wanted to go to SDSU and be an Aztec like my dad. If the mascot truly offends you donâ€™t associate with SDSU, itâ€™s that simple.
There is no reason to change the mascot because we are not being derogatory in any manner. Our moniker celebrates the power and unity that the Aztec people were known for, they were a force of nature that exuded pride and prowess and that should be continued to be celebrated. Once an Aztec, always an Aztec is the motto and if that is taken away from us, we lose what that ties us together.
There is nothing negative about having the name Aztecs as our mascot, if anything we are celebrating their culture and keeping their tribe still relevant to the San Diego community.
There is nothing wrong with the Aztec moniker or the Aztec Warrior! The fault lies in our own generation of overly-sensitive individuals taking offense to monikers/warriors that are not at all meant to offend or disrespect any group, class or human being. Be PROUD to be an Aztec!
There is nothing wrong with the name Aztecs nor the logo. The human representation is unnecessary.

There is so many other monikers that would be more beneficial for Branding/spirit/involvement. Think about it. Which is why your making this survey.
There is zero reason why we should change the mascot. If anything our mascot is a positive to minority groups. It inspires people to learn and understand Aztec culture and honor them by our best athletes competing under the
There should be a committee board for this. Consider getting deep into this subject with the anthropology department with input and feedback from indigenous mexican people/ the mexican student population here whose opinions should really be shaping this discussion
There will always be people who find a tenuous reason to be upset over something. The Aztec moniker isn't seriously injuring or displaying the Aztec heritage in a negative light. SDSU should concentrate on impactful issues and not this nonsense. Don't allow our school to bow to the pressures of a few disgruntled persons.
Thereâ€™s absolutely no need to eliminate Monty. Aztecs are used in a positive way that celebrates the cultural heritage of the Aztec peopleâ€™s. All ways that depict Monty help promote awareness and pride of the people and history. If Monty was used as a pejorative figure it would be grounds for removal, but how Monty is used
Thereâ€™s is nothing inherently offensive or disrespectful about our moniker. If anything it should be viewed as a celebration of the Aztecs and their culture not an appropriation.
Thereâ€™s should be more educational awareness around the mascot and also should Be represented by a person who identifies as an Aztec
This debate has become ridiculous at this point. How long will it be until the opposition finally understands that most people do not share the same sentimens that they do about or school's moniker. Who even is the opposition? Is the oppositoin of any Aztec descent? Most likely no as there are barely any remnants of that population. So who are they to dictate whether it is ethical or not.
This does not pertrain to SDSU-IV. You guys should pay attention to this campus such as campus safety. Administrators do not know what to do in case of an emergency such as an active shooter.
This has been our past for so many years. I completely agree and understand Cultural Appropraition concerns but maybe programs can be involved to educate those unaware of the culture.
This has been the SDSU mascot for countless years and decades, I think it is ridiculous and unjustified to remove our current mascot and remove the representation of him. There is no negative connotation or portrayal
This institution is making this a divisive issue, especially with the secrecy of the "task force" members. SDSU, and all organizations involved, should make this an opportunity for learning and unity.
This is 2018, the time for exploiting the image of indigenous peoples/culture should have died out with the Indian Wars of the Nineteenth century, or the civil rights movements of the 60's and 70's... it is embarrassing that such a good school panders to those who claim it is a longtime tradition, I take absolutely no pride in anything SDSU offers that is related to this obscene appropriation
This is a complete waste of time and resources . Please focus on education that's what I was a student and
This is a ludicrous example of the attempt to pc up our culture and get rid of our long lasting traditions. Questions 3 and 4 make absolutely no sense to maintaining the Aztec as our mascot. There's no reason why being a Aztec should offend anyone, sit back and relax and enjoy our Aztec Pride!
This is a mascot were not degrading the Aztecs or making fun of it. If SDSU had an Asian mascot like the Samurais I would be proud. Some people are just taking this topic way too personal. I dont hear anyone crying over the Padres, Celtics, Fighting Irish, Yankees, Pirates, Texans, Cowboys. Let us not mix these together. If we ban the Aztecs then I expect SDSU to lead the change of the Padres name
This is a San Diego tradition and is a big part of the community of southern-most California. This should not even be debated. Keep the Aztec
This is a silly issue. President Roush should finds something more important to worry about.
This is a stupid survey. The school should put more time, effort and money into our actual education instead of wasting it on pointless surveys and issues like this.
This is dumb, stop wasting money

This is fucking stupid. The Aztec is a complete respectable image and it by no means degrades the identity as such. I feel being an Aztec is something memorable and important.
This is getting ridiculous. Keep it!
this is not offensive. many schools use different native american tribes as their mascot and the members of those tribes take pride in it. These native american tribes, like Aztecs, are being portraye as strong, brave individuals who we are proud to be represented as. we are not mocking them or insulting them, we are praising them and holding their legacy high. donâ€™t change our history & identity.
This is ridiculous
This is ridiculous, last I checked the Aztec Warrior is a persona, not a culture, as a Latino from Mexican decent Iâ€™m glad this mascot is done tastefully.
This is ridiculous.
This is ridiculous. The majority of the student body couldn't care less about this. Some students just have too much time on their hands.
This is social justice warrior shit. It's a logo of an ancient culture that would rip out hearts of human sacrifices. To claim the logo is offensive shows your lack of ability to process reality and you should crawl to your safe space in your parents basement.
This is such a no-brainer. Do the right thing.
This issue is not going away, so SDSU may as well address it now. Please don't prioritize profit over people as has been the patterns for every year in history. Respect the natives, for we are on their land.
This kind of racism is disgusting and I will not stand for it.
This level of political correctness is not what makes America great. I come from a latino and Pauma Indian background and nor do I feel offended by the moniker. There are no polls that show any offense then some small fringes pushing an sgenda. In my community we are proud of all of our countries history and traditions, the
This mascot is the equivalent of the redskins - awful. We cannot use the Aztecs as a money gaining logo at the cost of the REAL Aztecs. Itâ€™s embarassing
This moniker is offensive to many people and their thighs should be taken into consideration.
This must be a joke. I know that the university would not be spending valuable resources that could be used for education to BLOODY DEBATE WHETHER A STUPID LOGO HURTS SOMEONE'S FEELINGS! Seriously, stop being retarded and get on with the education.
This name is embarrassing. I love sdsu. But having such a racist mascot headng sports games and being the center of a capitalist pride in the school shows how much the admin doesnt care about appropriating cultures. How am I supposed to be proud of something that harms the perception and "justifies" maltreatment for a
This political correctness needs to STOP. Iâ€™m an Aztec and proud to be one. This is a positive thing to give the Aztecs a place in current society.
This school does not bring the name aztec down but I believe instead we raise it up. the name is important to the students at this school as we all identify with it.
This school has a long history, and included in that history is the name and embodiment of the Aztecs. Some may see it as demeaning, or glorification of a warrior nation, but I see it as a honoring a once great nation that lived on these lands thousands of years ago. To use the Aztecs to represent our school is not a disgrace to their heritage, but rather a remembrance of the indingenous people.
This seems pretty clear--it's not okay to use indigenous peoples as mascots. It's not respectful, it's extremely dehumanizing. Naming our sports team after a people and then cheering them on while indigenous peoples continue to be killed and oppressed is disrespectful and unethical. Let's show some pride in our SDSU community by not relying on a mascot rooted in oppression.
This should have been done a long time ago

This survey invalidates the lived experiences of native/ indigenous people. Last year, I sat at the table where AS voted on whether or not we should keep the mascot. Though, I am not indigenous, I saw the ridicule they faced and the backlash they received from alumni who told them to "get over it". This survey should only be for those who self-identify as native/indigenous.
This whole debate is honestly a silly waste of time and money. Having an ancient warrior as a mascot is nothing new and ours is not racist at all. I understand overtly racist mascots like the Cleveland Indians or Wash. Redskins but that isn't what we have. If anything, it pays homage to the fact that San Diego was once a Mexican city. Keep
This whole effort to replace the Aztec mascot is just more politically correct poison from people (SDSU leadership) that are just aching to be offended in behalf of others
This whole ordeal seems ridiculous to me. We are not making fun of indigenous culture, or belittling it. The Aztecs were a war based civilization. We are not calling them savages. We are honoring them, and placing them as the face of a big educational institution. I think that people are misinterpreting it just to be upset about
This whole thing has gotten silly for how offended some people are by it. All alumni I've talked to have nothing but respect for this school and it's mascot. I can't think of a single instance where the school has mocked the culture in any way. Instead (most) students, alumni, and the staff love being Aztecs. We would not have the Aztec as a mascot if we did not think highly of Aztecs.
Those who support the Aztec moniker should not be demonized by those who oppose it. In doing so, the opposition is denouncing the same freedom of speech that allows them the right to oppose the supposed "culturally indecent" representation of Aztecs in the first place. Hypocrisy has run rampant in this fairly nonsensical conflict on both sides. People really need to get over themselves...
Though I answered yes to the question "should SDSU keep the Aztec moniker," I do not feel strongly about that
Through a Mexican American Studies class that I took during community college I learned the many traditions that the Aztecs held. They were violent and although successful in many ways I believe SDSU students should not be represented by a civilization that performed such violent actions. In addition, I believe that no human being (Aztecs) should be named mascot, as this diminishes their culture.
Through use of their namesake, we honor the great Aztec Warriors! Use of this moniker is in no way demeaning to the Aztecs, it is quite the opposite. I'm proud to be an Aztec and would be sad to see that change due to the overly sensitive attitudes of relatively few among us.
To change the entire identity of our school because a politically powerful group doesn't agree, would be doing exactly what colonials did to the identity of San Diego indigenous groups. It is a waste of time and resources to rebrand our University based on identity politics. Go Aztecs!!!!
To my knowledge, SDSU has never misrepresented the Aztec people or the culture, nor does it seem in any way disrespectful to me. The removal of the mascot due to the â€œdisrespectâ€ certain individuals feel is unnecessary and completely illogical. Stripping SDSU of the Aztecs will strip the school of the foundation of our
Too much PC pressure, the name is fine as it is.
Too politically correct to remove it, really donâ€™t think anyone is genuinely offended, Iâ€™m supposed to be an Aztec for life
Took 3 different history of Mexico classes and 2 in Latin American Studies at this institution and one prior to me being accepted to SDSU
Took a Native American studies class which gave me a lot of knowledge on this matter.
took AMIND-141
Trying to get rid of the Aztec as a school mascot is stupid. Its not offensive its a symbol of strength. As a native American I support the mascot fully and whole heartedly. The removal of it would just go to show how there is a push to remove the already lost culture

Trying to undo a sacred SDSU tradition is not only insensitive but frankly insulting to every student, alumni and faculty. ALL students across all different ethnic, racial and political backgrounds including Indigenous people see the Aztecs as a symbol of pride, unity and strength. Removing the Aztec name and warrior will be a great disservice to not only our campus but our nation.
UCSD has their Tritons, symbolizing Neptune/Poseidon, USC has their Trojans, and UCLA has a bear. I think when all the mascots in the CSU/UC are compared, I think UCSD's Aztec moniker sounds more realistic as it reflects an elite civilization that rose up from basically nothing. Aztec reflects the same fighting spirit as well as the ability to
Unless the university wishes to affirm and condone culturally insensitive and racist ideologies, the moniker and mascot must change.
Unlike the redskins, the Aztec is not an insulting mascot... Just like the warrior or spartan are not inappropriate mascot representations.
Using caricatures of a culture of people that was essentially victim to a genocide perpetrated by the Spanish is incredibly insensitive and furthermore racist.
We already voted on it. If you really want to change it, keep this BS up and finally we might cave so you liberals can have your way for once.
We already went through this in 2002 and made changes. If we allow each subsequent generation to chip away at our image weâ€™ll have nothing left. The Aztec nation was a strong, artistic, civilized society that continues to inspire. I canâ€™t imagine a better mascot, nor will I accept one. #aztecforlife
We are Aztecs and always an Aztec.
WE ARE AZTECS FOR LIFE
WE ARE AZTECS!!!!!!!
We are Aztecs, dont let people ruin that! We shouldnt change something that has been here for MANY year. I have a senior and wouldnt want Aztec warrior to go away
We are Aztecs.
We are honoring the Aztecs and indigenous peoples by using this moniker, not disrespecting them.
We are not using the Aztec in a negative way. SDSU uses it with the pride that any mascot should be treated. I see nothing wrong with it
We are obviously situated in an area that once belonged to indigenous people. It is only right to honor them through our studies, sports, etc. We are here, on land that once belonged to them, so we must make it known! It is only right. Additionally, wouldnâ€™t there be an expansive cost to changing our moniker?
We are proud to be Aztecs!
We are proud to be Aztecs. No one wears the logo to disparage or offend anyone. Losing the Aztec moniker would be a loss in the identity of the school.
We are San Diego State University. We are Aztecs. It is a shame that this survey even needs to happen. It is not insensitive to keep the name or have a representation of it. We are proud to be Aztecs. Period. Anything else just wouldn't feel right. We are the San Diego State AZTECS.
We are the Aztecs! Aztec is not a derogatory term. Our name as the Aztecs is honoring the real Aztecs and is not negative in anyway. Yâ€™all are so soft that anything bothers you. This is a complete joke and I canâ€™t belive we are even having this conversation. #aztecforlife
We donâ€™t need to change the mascot or the name we just need to be more educated. For example, including a 5 min presentation of the culture during orientation. Or why the Aztec culture is important to this school.
we have changed several things regarding names on campus already and we can afford to change our mascot. people will continue to not like change but for what itâ€™s worth, itâ€™s important
We have more important issues to worry about. Why are we wasting so much time on this.
We must keep the same name in order to honor the true meaning of SDSU.

We need a cultural center at SDSU where students can learn about the Aztecs, both the good and bad history. The Aztec culture should NOT be used to perpetuate our values onto it. Furthermore, the university needs to actively discourage offensive cultural practices at sports events (i.e. Weather feather headresses at basketball
we need to move forward and respect the Aztec culture in its entirety and NOT just as a warrior! As a center of higher learning we should NOT resemble the high school culture of having mascots for crowd entertainment.
We need to stop appropriating a culture that most of the study body has no education about. Cultural appropriation upon the indigenous people that have been stripped of their rights is sickening. We need to stop profiting over their pain and change our moniker.
We need to stop changing everything we know because there are few people don't like the Aztec Warrior. Remember this school has over 33,000 students not all are for the change. My family tree has a Native American background and I do NOT find the warrior in anyway offensive. We should keep the warrior and put a greater focus on the great education provided by SDSU and it's faculty.
We need to stop stealing browns peoples cultures
We respectfully represent the Aztec culture. But, I think the human representation could be modified to include more respect.
We should change the mascot to something that doesnâ€™t involve people. An animal, prefirably.
We should highlight the best parts of history, not forget them
We should keep the Aztec mascot. It will cost too much to change our brand completely and what are sports without mascots. Educating students on who the Aztecs were would show how they achieved much but also were a violent warrior culture. We should show both.
We should keep the human representation of the Aztec warrior but it should be someone who is from Aztec descent, or at the very least Mexican. This is going to be a hard battle and there is no right or wrong as this is a battle of feelings. There are no right or wrong feelings. So whatever is decided there will be backlash.
We should keep this mascot. People need to stop being offended!!
We should respect the wishes of the Native Students on this campus. The Native people in this country have been marginalized for so long and it's our responsibility that the Native Students on this campus not only feel safe but also feel like their culture and identity is not being disrespected. Listen to the Native students and eliminate the Aztec Mascot and Moniker!
We're proud to be Aztecs! We aren't demeaning the role of the Aztec in any way.
We've had so many different mascots as a school that changing it wouldn't be the biggest deal if we just at what it has been before.
What are we supposed to do, rename Montezuma road? The cost of re franchising the University would be outrageous. I'm sure ALL students would rather not have tuition increased as a result of the moniker change.
What are you going to change the mascot to?
What does it mean for education to be beneficial? What outcome is seen as beneficial, either the Aztec moniker and maybe the mascot stays or is it beneficial that the Aztec moniker is retired? What kind of education is being suggested; full, uncensored info about the Aztec culture or just the positive reasons SDSU chooses to represent
Whatever you change the mascot to will somehow offend someone. We use the aztec name here with pride, and I am PROUD to be an Aztec. Stop trying to PC everything, this should be a non issue.
When I think of the Aztec Mascot, I don't think about the racial/cultural implications people recently have been going towards; I think about how our school comes together with pride. If they take our mascot away, who knows what they could take away next. It is not meant to be discriminatory towards a certain race/culture. It represents our school pride, strength, and experiences here at SDSU.
When I went to my freshman student orientation, I remember the president and the A.S. president telling us that we were AZTECS FOR LIFE! I do not find the name or mascot offensive in anyway shape or form... I believe it honors a culture that existed in the past! I went to a highschool where the mascot was The Spartans. Should that be changed to? Is that racist? Please tell me why or why not?

When I went to orientation I was told that I would be an Aztec until I die.
While far less racially offensive as other monikers like â€œred skinsâ€ (a term derivative of the practice of scalping indigenous peoples), the image of the Aztec warrior leaves little room for cultural accuracy. I find it disrespectful to continue to misrepresent indigenous peoples as simply â€œwarriorsâ€.
While I am not personally offended by the Aztec mascot, many of our indigenous peers are. I will not stand here and say I love the Aztec when people I go to school with find it degrading and offensive. It doesn't matter if the majority likes the mascot, even if a small section of the campus feels offended and degraded it is the schools job
While I believe education related to the Aztecs would be beneficial, I say that because it should inform the decision to remove this mascot.
While I believe that under the right political conditions indigenous names could be used to pay homage to a population and culture, unfortunately we as a society are not there yet. Given that those who are of indigenous decent are still dealing with issues of inequality and marginalization, it's culturally insensitive to be displayed in a way that reduces your existence to that of a caricature.
While I do understand the need to be tolerant to other peopleâ€™s feelings and backgrounds of origins and cultures, I strongly believe that the â€œAztecâ€ exists in no clear offensive way to justify in its removal. The moniker strictly serves as a mascot to this school with no obvious intention to violate or humiliate anybodyâ€™s
While the idea of a strong warrior is admirable for a school, it cheapens a culture for nothing. An animal would be more appropriate.
Who cares about a name that was established so long ago. People are too damn sensitive.
Who gives a shit?
Who has the right to speak for a historic people and their culture? Aztecs were warriors and they competed in games. We honor their memory!
Who is offended by the name Aztecs? I would understand if we were the Redskins or the Indians, but we are not. We are also not negatively portraying the Aztecs at all.
Why are people offended by stupid shit?
Why is this an issue? I was under the impression that this was voted down a few years ago. I think people should be proud to be an AZTEC
Why not build up the name rather than tear it down cause of â€œfeelingsâ€
Why the hell would we change.. it's not even a big deal
With all the respect Iâ€™m Mexican American and I donâ€™t see an issue with having the name Aztecs. Iâ€™m actually glad we have it.
Work with those protesting on the accuracy of the mascot to make a culturally accepted "moniker" and maybe not directly call it a mascot.
yâ€™all racist
Yeah you should change the mascot
Yes I am enrolled in a chicano history study course.
Yes, at SDSU!!!
You canâ€™t change history and I want to part of the Aztecâ€™s.
You change the mascot, I wonâ€™t be an Aztec for life. And I love sdsu
You know what might make this task force a lot better? RELEASING THE NAMES OF THE PEOPLE WHO ARE ON IT. Whatever conclusion you come to will have ZERO legitimacy if the public doesn't know who's making the
You must change this mascot. It is grossly inappropriate and highly racist. SDSU needs to rise up to the challenge and do better. There is no excuse. We need to listen to POC and POC Professors that tell us how monikers like this are harmful, negligible, and need to do better.
You remove the Aztec, youâ€™ll piss off donors and you sure as hell wonâ€™t get any money from me. Iâ€™m an Aztec for life. You change the Universityâ€™s mascot because of pc even though itâ€™s nothing close to the â€œRedskinsâ€ or â€œChief Wahooâ€. It is ridiculous that this survey has to be sent out.

You should only kerp the name as long as you provide education about and help to indigenous Native American
You would be making the entire campus map in order to appease a few social justice warriors
You're a bunch of liars for lying about the task force. Aztecs for life.

SDSU AZTEC FINAL REPORT

May 1, 2018

ALUMNI (appendix A)

This population had the largest data. Majority of the comments were in reference to SDSU sporting events. Data analysis found the following to be salient across the comments:

- The Aztec is the main identity for alumni
- More than majority of alumni did not find the moniker/mascot to be offensive
    - Alumni did not find the moniker/mascot to be examples of appropriation. They found it to be expressing appreciation of the Aztec culture.
- Majority of alumni expressed withholding funds AND support if SDSU changes the moniker/mascot
- Alumni urged the institution to consider SDSU's branding and reputation that has been developed over the years. Removing or changing of the moniker/mascot would become be detrimental to the culture and name of the university.

ALUMNI - FOR THE MONIKER/MASCOT QUOTES (appendix B)

1. As long as San Diego State University is respectful in its representation of the Aztecs, which I've NOT seen to be a problem while I attended SDSU and Aztec sporting events, then I see no reason to eliminate the Aztecs name and mascot. It's a proud tradition that I hope continues.
2. Do not lose our identity. Why is the school caving into political correctness? If you need to make changes to the Aztec warrior to represent what an Aztec actually looked like, so be it. If you decide to lost the moniker I would be extremely disappointed and I would not accept the new Moniker. Once an Aztec, always an Aztec!

ALUMNI - AGAINST THE MONIKER/MASCOT QUOTES (appendix C)

1. As it stands, the use of the Aztec warrior as SDSU's mascot is inhumane. It regulates a complex civilization to a barbaric caricature, promotes stereotyping, and violates SDSU's own campus element of our past instead of making a change for a brighter future.
2. I am a SDSU alumna and staff member and have lived near SDSU almost my whole life. I would be proud of SDSU to reject this mascot, which has been harmful and exploitative stereotype to many communities. I don't currently donate money to SDSU and will never donate money to SDSU UNLESS the Aztec moniker and the human representation of the Aztec Warrior are both abandoned.

FACULTY AND STAFF (appendix D)

Faculty and staff were more explicit in their comments regarding the issue. The following points highlight some of the initial findings:

- Many faculty and staff supported the name, but did not like the human representation
- Some faculty and staff argued that SDSU should be a leader and change the mascot

FACULTY AND STAFF - FOR THE MONIKER/MASCOT QUOTES (appendix E)

1. The human representation of an Aztec can be historically and culturally sensitive, done in taste, and in consultation with cultural experts and a wide variety of indigenous representatives. Those who identify with SDSU as Aztecs far outweigh those who are against it. The task force should meet to discuss it, but we can find a way to celebrate the identity and honor the heritage.
2. We are a proud school and our alumni exemplifies the same. We are above many other universities nationwide on many education endeavors, and therefore feel that we should make this last step towards being a knowledgeable, inclusive community in order to support many of our Native current and prospective students and initiatives to continue improving who we are and what we provide to students.

FACULTY AND STAFF - AGAINST THE MONIKER/MASCOT QUOTES (appendix F)

1. The mascot is racist, offensive, and in violation of our core values. At conferences, I regularly get asked by colleagues at other universities why we cannot get rid of it. For a campus so concerned about being taken seriously, getting rid of it should be a no-brainer.
2. This is a clear-cut case of appropriation. There is no feasible association between the Aztecs and this region or institution. It is past time to rectify this.

COMMUNITY (appendix G)

This population had the least data. Most of the data was really short and not relevant in either supporting or rejecting the use of the current moniker/mascot. Some findings of the data suggested the following from the community:

- The focus of the survey was a waste of time
- Findings indicated that most of the community members were in favor keeping the mascot
- Some community members suggested changing the name and/or the human representation mascot with an animal figure

COMMUNITY - FOR THE MONIKER/MASCOT QUOTES (appendix H)

1. I think SDSU should keep the name and mascot with permission from local indigenous persons. Without their input, I think the mascot and name should be changed.
2. This is a proud and respectful honoring and celebration of the heritage and grandeur of the of the Aztec nation, who SDSU has proudly recognized from UNAM signaled their approval and appreciation of this usage. The Mexican people, direct descendants of the Aztec, are proud of the recognition.

COMMUNITY - AGAINST THE MONIKER/MASCOT QUOTES (appendix I)

1. I have no problem with the name just the racist stereotypical of using Native Americans as a mascot we are not mascots, but a race and culture you would not have so

2. It is appalling that in this day and age any school, team, or company would think this kind of racists, insensitive cultural appropriation was okay. My children won't go to SDSU because of this.

STUDENTS (appendix J)

The student feedback had the most robust responses. The comments varied between supporting/removing the moniker/mascot:

- The majority of students did not find the moniker and mascot to be offensive (this included Aztec/Hispanic descents, students who completed course on Aztec history) and found it to be honoring the culture
- The majority of students recommend having more representation and courses to educate students about the history and culture of Aztec
- Students who were offended expressed that SDSU should change the moniker and mascot because it was racist and appropriating
- Other students noted that changing the identity of SDSU will hurt future funding and support from current students and alumni
- A few students expressed that the human representation is offensive and should be reconsidered to be presented in other forms (e.g., an animal that represents Aztec culture)
- Some students were open to keeping the name and moniker, but using another representation other than the human representation
    - If SDSU decides to keep the mascot, the person representing the Aztec should be of Aztec or Hispanic descent
- Students expressed that removing the moniker and name would hurt the identity and culture for students
- Some students noted that SDSU respectfully and appropriately portrays the mascot and culture well and also celebrates and preserves the culture

STUDENTS - FOR THE MONIKER/MASCOT QUOTES (appendix K)

1. If you take away our mascot you will truly be doing a disservice to our school. The removing of the Aztec off of all surfaces on campus, clothing in the bookstore, and all websites and social media would be a very expensive measure in which we could use those funds elsewhere to benefit students current and incoming. The use of the Aztec as our mascot honors and serves as a remembrance of our Aztec.
2. It is easy for a human moniker to become offensive, however, I feel that in the case of SDSU it is more about heritage and preservation of culture. Our place as the Aztecs seem far more innocuous and positive than something like the Washington Redskins.

STUDENTS - AGAINST THE MONIKER/MASCOT QUOTES (appendix L)

1. In general, I think the mascot is problematic - however, what is especially problematic is the fact that we literally have a man dressed up as an "Aztec" and run around beating his

drum at sports games. It's highly stereotypical and in my opinion, completely inappropriate in the year 2018! I think SDSU is great in so many ways and should be a leader in this aspect.

2. It is cultural appropriation and harmful to keep the name Aztecs. It does not positively serve members from that culture/community, so SDSU should not profit from it. Keeping it further enables folks to mock and appropriate such cultures. I am not proud to represent myself as an "SDSU Aztec."

CONSIDERATIONS

- Majority of Native decent and Mexican heritage found the Aztec identity as a source of preserving the culture
- There was ambiguity and confusion differentiating the moniker, the name Aztec and the warrior mascot across the data

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Provide more educational resources/classes to educate SDSU community about the history of the Aztecs to inform a more accurate history
    a. The data suggested that SDSU only portrays the Aztecs as warriors while they were also great engineers, sculptors, and innovators (to name a few).
    b. Invite Indigenous or Indigenous descents as guest speakers to be a part of SDSU's courses/forums/workshops or other forms of acknowledging the culture in/around campus

    Quotes to support the recommendation:

    1. If you decide to keep the name, I would still encourage mandatory courses of Indigenous and Native people to this land, many of us donate even know who the Aztec are and many have no education about them and the Native people, yet we call ourselves one, and honor them through misrepresentation. -*Student*
    2. I believe that being an Aztec has been part of our tradition, and the school should provide classes or other form of education about who the Aztecs were and how we at SDSU are doing everything we can to appreciate and celebrate the Aztec culture without minimizing it or appropriating the culture and ideals of the Aztecs. -*Student*

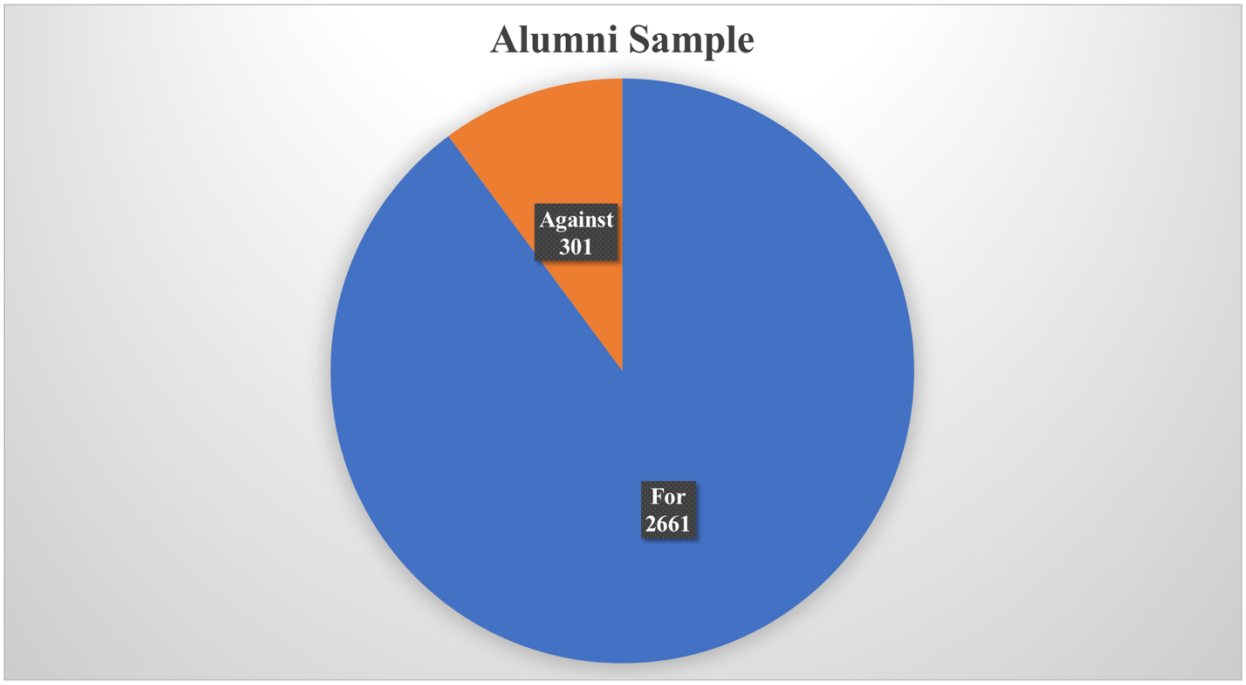
- Use other symbols to represent SDSU moniker/mascot
    a. Keep the moniker, but consider other symbols that represent Aztecs without a human representation
    b. Keep the moniker, but consider using other artifacts instead of the spear

c. All moniker/mascot decisions should be intentional and connected to education purposes to ensure respect and understanding of the Aztec culture

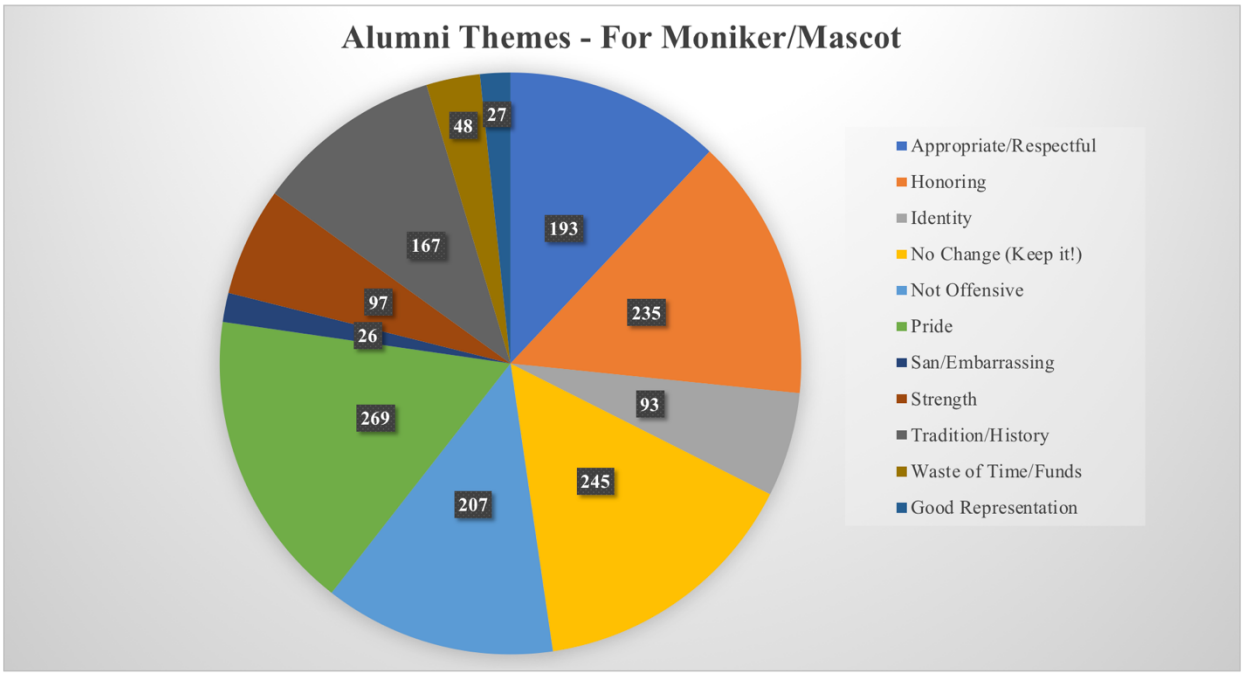
Quotes to support the recommendation:

1. The time is right to make changes. What changes is the question. I have no problem with the name, but I think the human representation of the Aztec warrior should go. There are other Aztec symbols that could be adopted. No problem with the Monty award or building names that are Aztec. The committee/task force to make recommendations is an excellent idea, but it must have more than a token number of students. - *Community*
2. As an Indigenous Native woman from here these are our traditional lands. It doesn't represent local tribal people. The use of another image is more honorable. -*Alumni*

Appendix A



Appendix B



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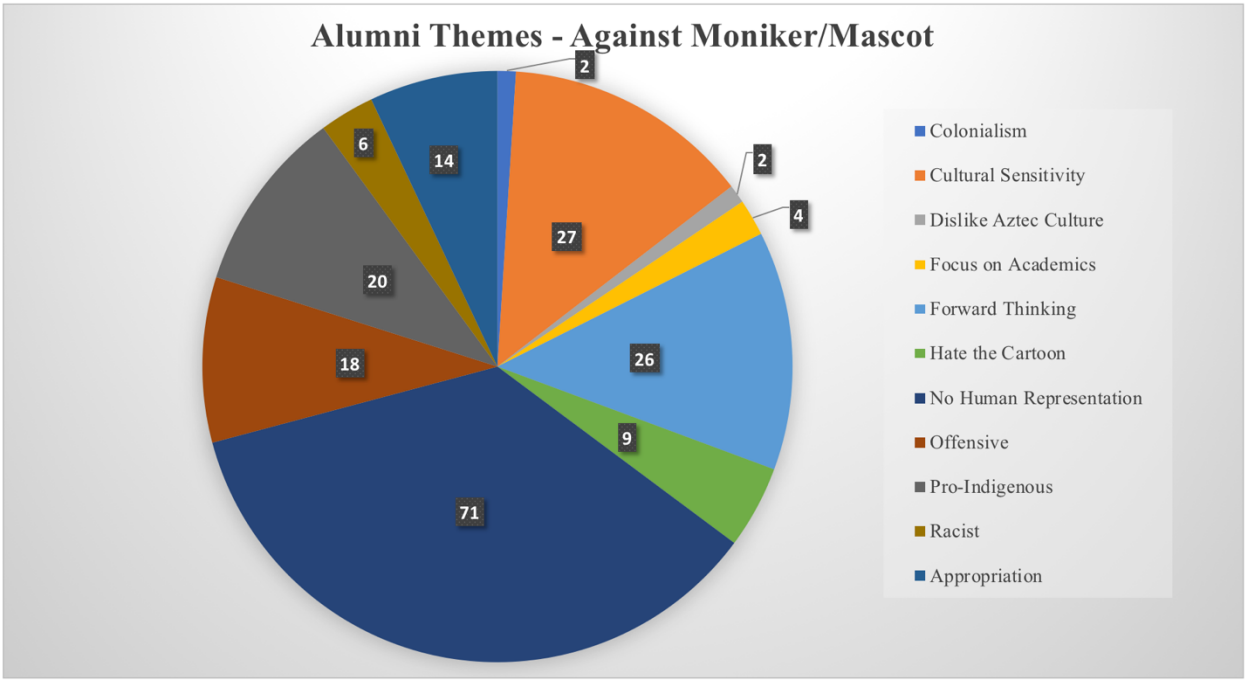

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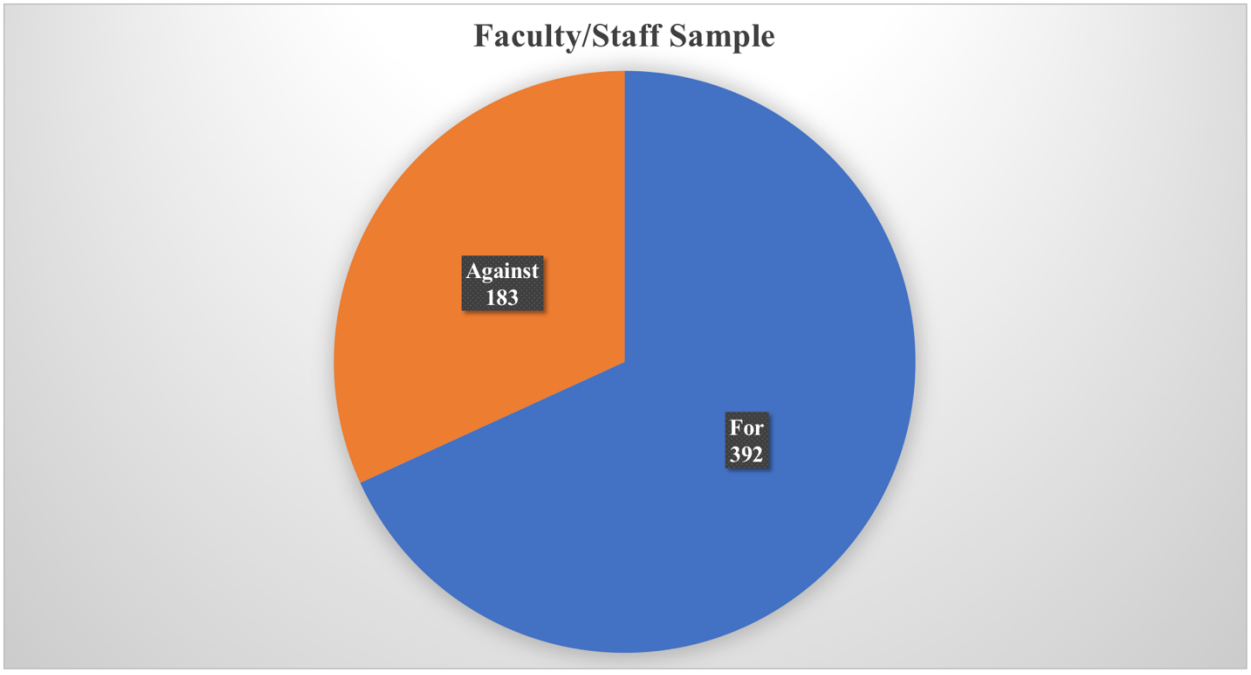

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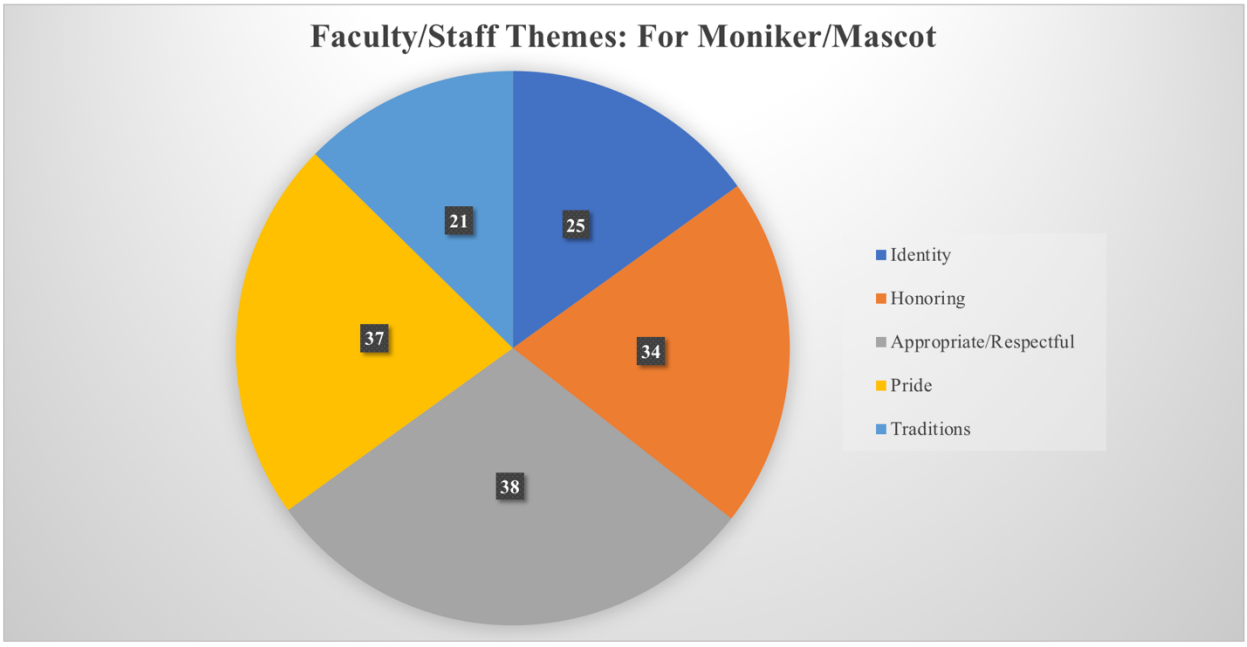

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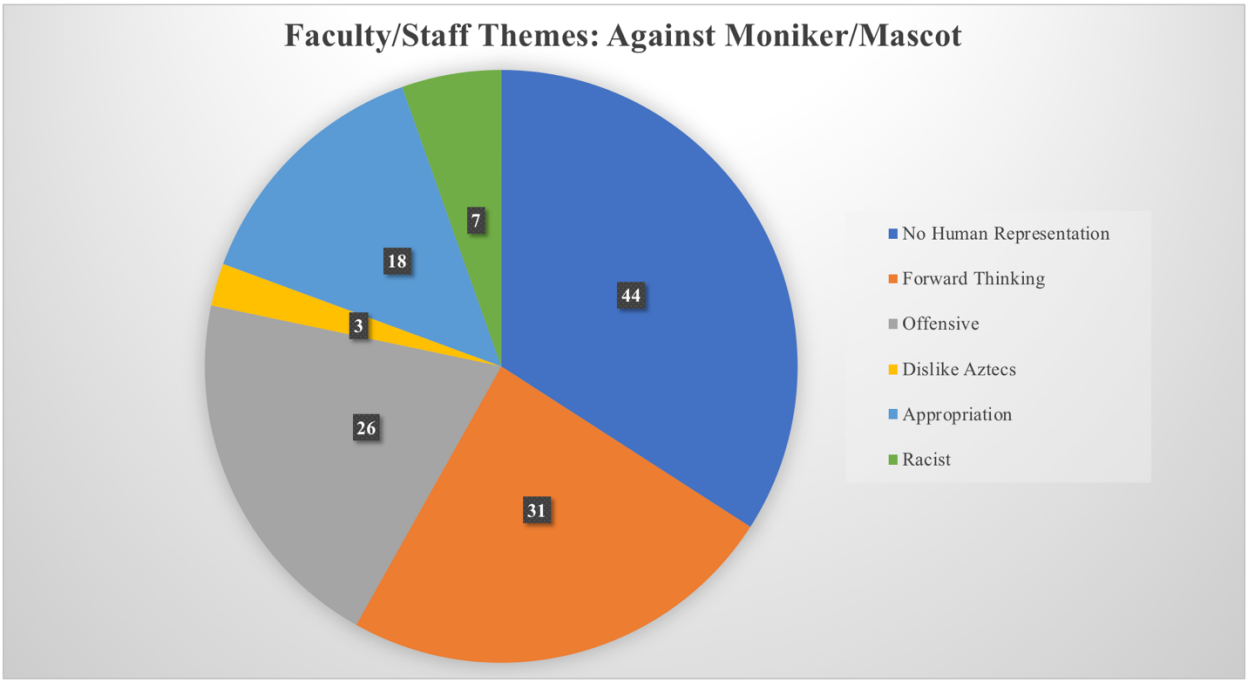

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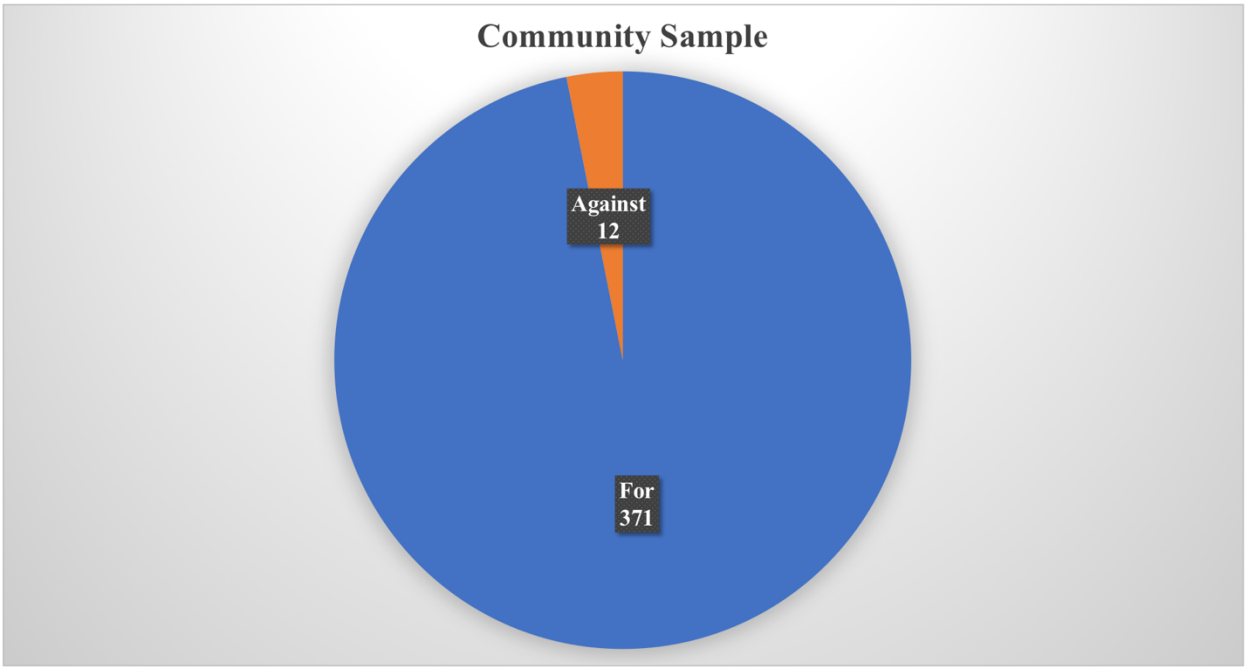

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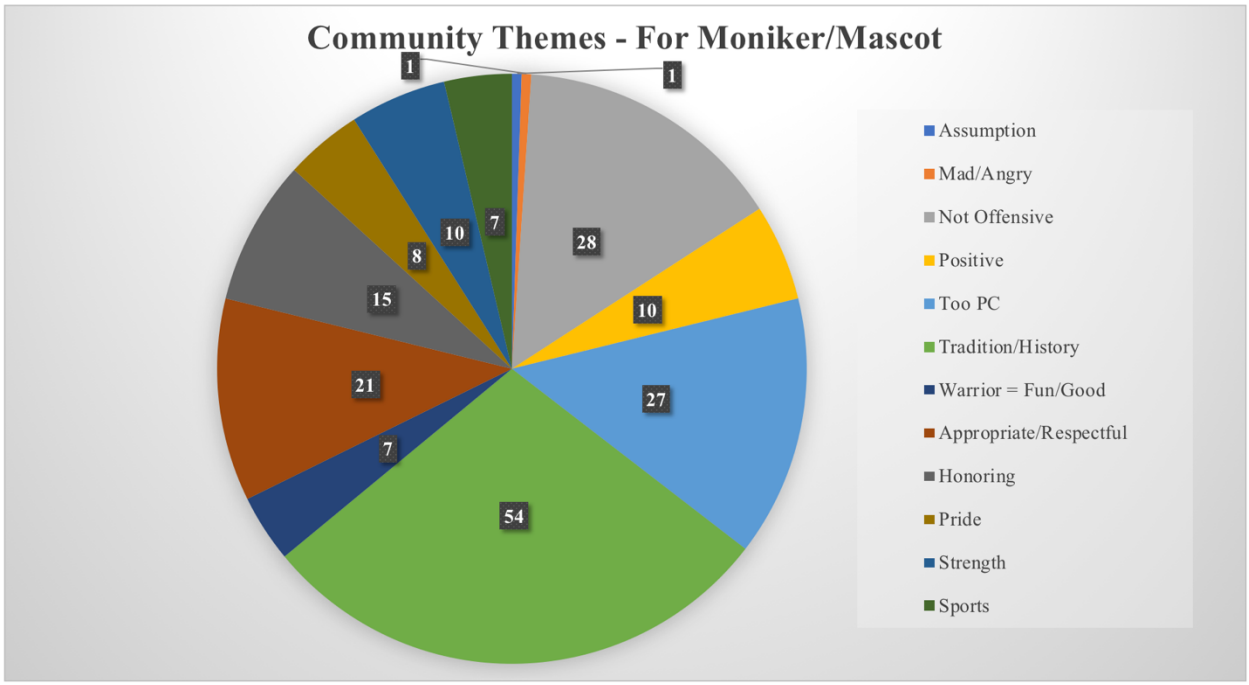
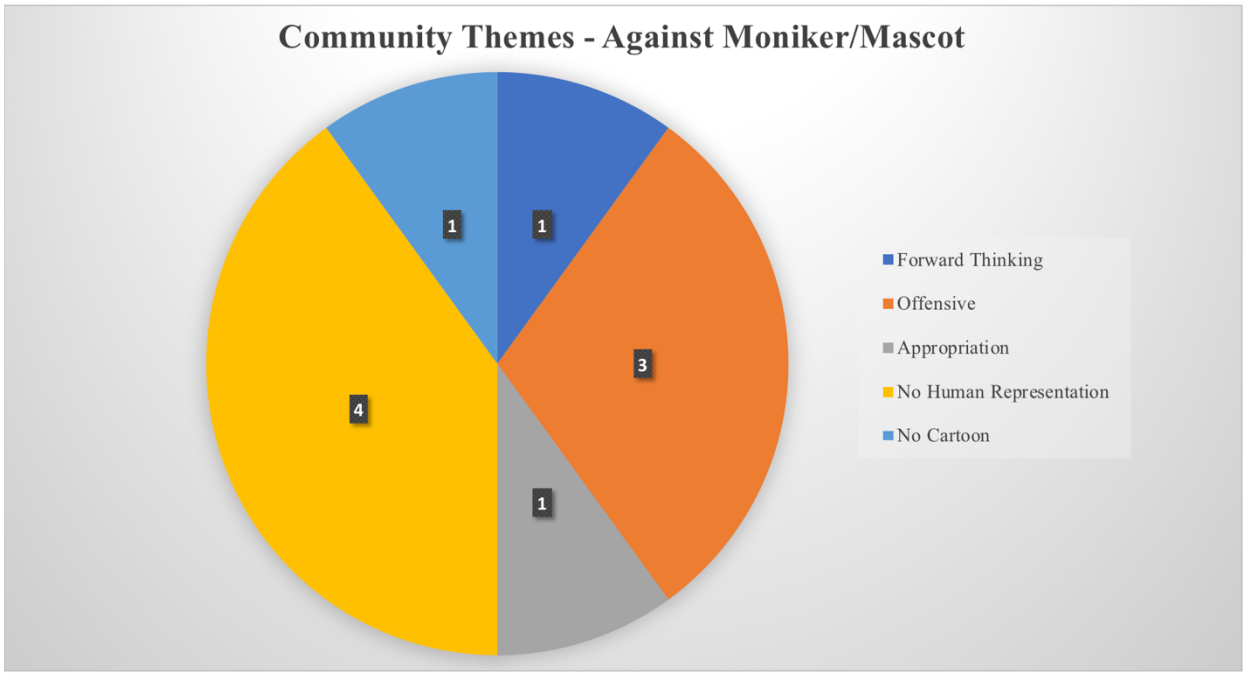


Appendix I



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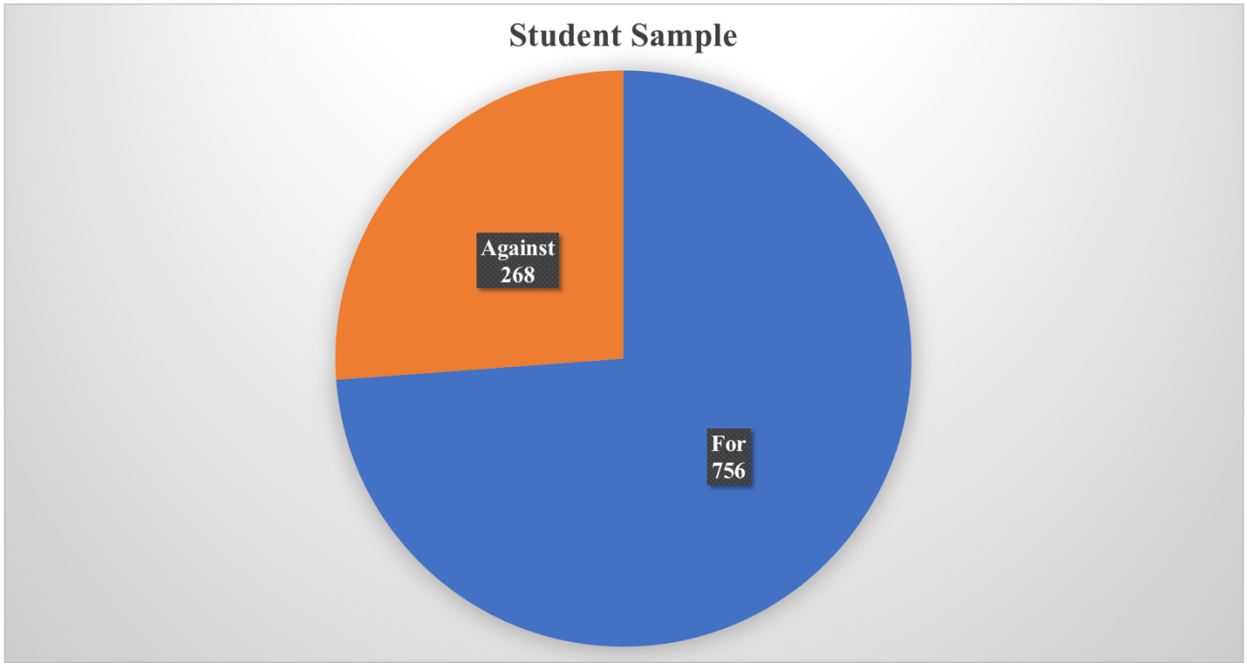
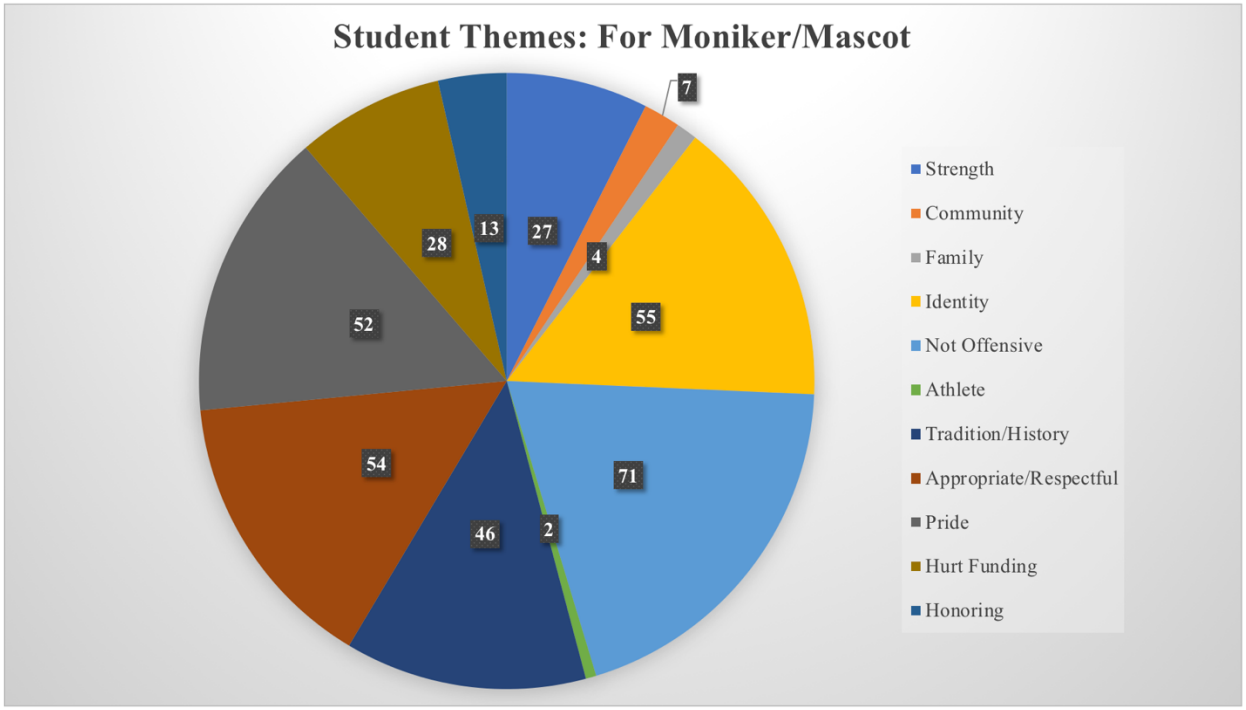
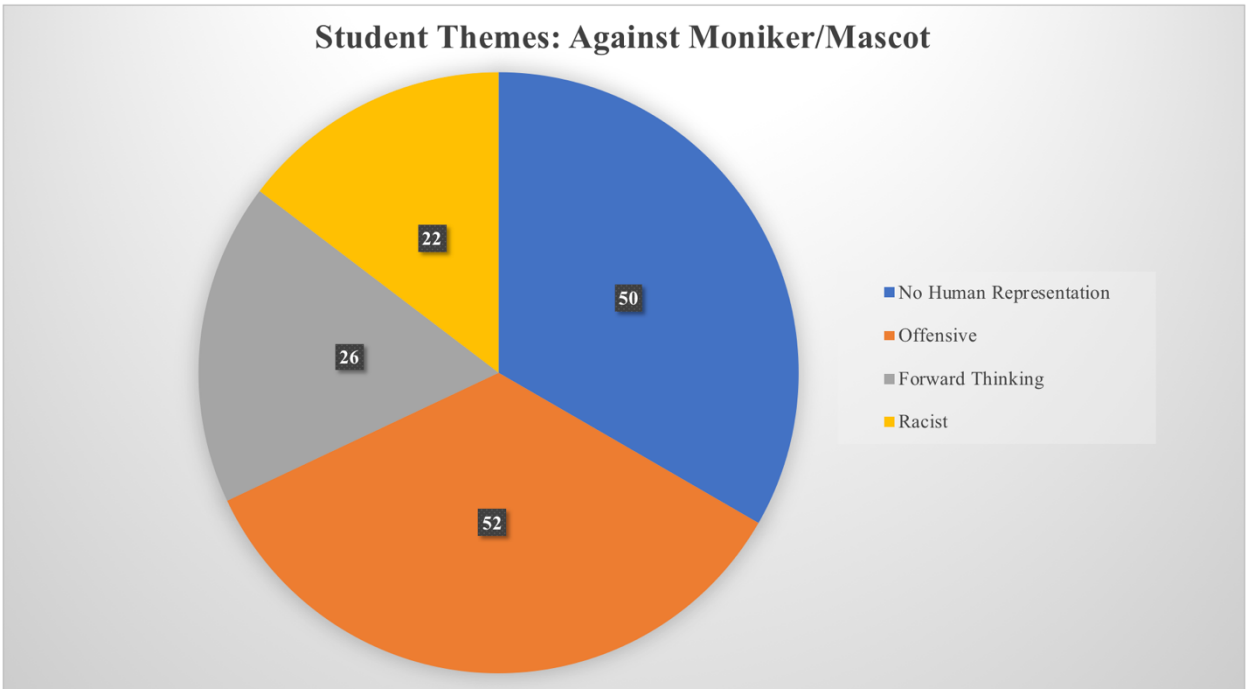


Appendix K



Appendix L



SDSU AZTEC FINAL REPORT

Codebook

Description of Coding Process

The data set was delivered in four separate samples: Alumni, students, faculty/staff and community. Each data set was then scrambled, arranged alphabetically and then provided to the four qualitative analysis team members. In order to ensure a sense of interrater reliability, each data set was split four ways and an equal portion of each sample was assigned per analysis team member. This helped to ensure stability of responses to multiple coders across the four data sets. Team leaders established a common platform for coding (Qualitative analysis software - Dedoose) and developed a preliminary code list based only on the survey questions.

The preliminary codes were established 'blind' with little-to-no detailed background information, knowledge of expectations or predetermined research questions from the task-force survey administrators (Creswell and Poth, 2018). This allowed the codes to be decided upon by the analysis team from an unbiased perspective. The preliminary codes were - 'For the mascot/moniker' (Table 1), 'Against the mascot/moniker' (Table 2) and 'Tone or attitude toward the survey' - positive or negative (Table 5). Since the reporting of primarily positive data can be indicative of researcher bias, the acknowledging of the positive or negative tones of the responses was included as a means to ensure a comprehensive disclosure of the findings by presenting multiple perspectives. This code would be considered implicit while the 'for' and 'against' codes were almost always explicitly stated by respondents.

We employed a layered coding sequence in which initial code generation began in the alumni data set. This was decided upon in order to achieve the most data rich set of codes early on and because the alumni data was the largest set overall and a majority of the responses were dense in codable information. Next, initial codes were expanded upon by analysis team leaders in two separate waves. This process increased the three initial codes to total of five code categories which included 'considerations' and 'recommendations'. These code categories emerged from the data explicitly as respondents were found commonly citing their own considerations (Table 3) when providing their opinions or recommendations to aid in resolving the issue (Table 4). Analysis team leaders added depth to the code list by adding parent codes under the categories during their initial round of coding. Parent codes were decided upon and established based on participant responses within each category and descriptions were added to any codes that might seem ambiguous our confusing to other analysis team members.

Once the entire analysis team began coding in the alumni data set, the team members maintained communication via face-to-face meetings, phone conversations, emails, and memoing in a shared document. The team members strived to maintain an unbiased perspective throughout the analysis process by only discussing the initial findings with each other and eventually the task-force survey administrators. The utilization of technology (live document sharing) allowed an audit trail to be established which Creswell and Poth (2018) attribute to providing team members with a protocol to document thinking processes that clarified understandings between team members over time. The analysis team used the same document to notify others if a new code was established or altered.

As the analysis team members began to reach saturation within the alumni data set, the original five categories were then applied to the other three samples and expanded upon in the same fashion. Parent codes were added as before with salient codes surfacing within the four explicit

categories. The salient codes can be identified in each table by locating the parent codes and descriptions highlighted in gray. Due to limited functionality of the chosen technology and in order to meet completion timelines, two of the researchers transferred their data sets offline and completed the coding process by hand. The following code glossary was revised, refined and finalized near the end of the coding process. Finally, the codes were collapsed into small themes and applied in a visual format along with the 'for' and 'against' numbers attributed to each sample. The final report and tables reflect all coding - both online and by-hand coding.
The following list (which is by no means exhaustive) includes definitions and concepts to consider when examining this data set: Cultural appropriation, mascot, moniker, caricature, Aztec, Náhuatl, Mexica, Montezuma, identity, culture (e.g.,ethnic, academic, athletic), race, snowflakes, political correctness, colonialism, Indigenous, Native Americans, Kumeyaay people, immigrant identity, first-generation, Chicano, Aztlan, and historical warrior cultures (e.g., Trojans, Spartans, Vikings).

Table 1. For the Mascot /Moniker

Anchor Code	Parent Code	Boundary defining description	Example of a segment of text data
Alumni	No change (Keep it)	Keep the moniker & mascot	Everything is fine as is.
	Not offensive	Not offended by use or current representation	The Aztec warrior is not the least bit offensive. There are no Aztec descendants around to be offended if it was offensive. I have numerous Native American relatives and friends and have participated in many Native American events and they don't find it offensive.
	Appropriate / respectful	View current representation as appropriate and/or respectful	All who have portrayed this current form have been respectful. The current mascot was designed w/authenticity in mind.
	Tradition / history	View moniker/mascot as part of school traditions and/or history	I do not approve or appreciate the rewriting of history and find that this is an insane waste of resources! I'd hate to see the SDSU heritage lost because of overly PC ideals that do not reflect the full SDSU family sentiments.
	Identity	Cite moniker/mascot as part of school identity	If the university does away with the Aztecs name or Traditions, as recently improved to respect the culture, dedicated alumni such as myself will lose our identity with the school.
	Pride	Cite moniker/mascot as instilling a sense of pride in school	Actually proud to be able to say that I graduated from a place that honored part of my heritage.
	Strength	View moniker & mascot as providing a sense of strength	The Aztec warrior represents strength & fearlessness unlike your average mascot. No other university has an Aztec mascot & that's great because that makes SDSU unique!
	Honoring	View use of moniker/mascot as honoring Aztec culture	There's a fine line between honoring a culture & exploitation. I have not seen the SDSU Aztec used in a way that degrades us. There are no racial slurs, it does not create prejudice nor is this Aztec warrior misrepresents nor marginalizes Aztec culture.
	Sad / embarrassed	View questioning of moniker/mascot as sad or embarrassing	Sad to see my old university cave in to misguided, politically correct activism and willfully attempt to erase its own historic identity. Shameful, in fact.

	Waste of time	View questioning of moniker/mascot as a waste of time	Political correctness is such a waste of time. There are so many more important things to work on.
Students	Identity	Cite moniker/mascot as part of school identity	I firmly believe that SDSU is represented by being an Aztec and if you change that you will change all of our identities/connection with the school. We say with pride that we are Aztecs whether we are an Alumni or a current student don't take this away from us.
	Pride	Cite moniker/mascot as instilling a sense of pride in school	I absolutely love being an Aztec, it makes me full of pride to be able to be symbolized as a strong, intelligent, just everything I personally strive to be, group of human beings! I love it so much and it is just amazing to see an indigenous person be a symbol of power and smartness, not some laborer or weakling, it is someone who I and all of my uncles and aunts have looked up to as immigrants.
	Family	Cite moniker/mascot as instilling a sense of connection to family members	
	Not offensive	Not offended by use or current representation	I can see why people would be upset about the Aztec Warrior but changing the Aztec moniker would change the entire school's brand and sense of community. I am Native American and I know cultures being exploited is bad, but I don't think SDSU exploits the Aztec culture.
	Appropriate / respectful	View current representation as appropriate and/or respectful	The name Aztec does not mock the ancient people, unlike the name Redskins which is considered a slur. The SDSU logo is in no way making a caricature out of the ancient warrior, in the same way that the name Vikings is not considered offensive.
	Tradition / history	View moniker/mascot as part of SDSU traditions and/or history	If we change it we are changing a long history of the school and that affects students here. So please don't change this long tradition of Aztecs.
	Strength	Cite moniker/mascot as a representing/instilling strength	I myself am a Yaqui Indian and I see having the Aztec as a symbol of strength and honor.
	Athlete	Cite moniker/ mascot as instilling a sense of pride in SDSU athletics	As an SDSU athlete I hold great pride in being an Aztec Warrior every time I enter the pool. I know I'm fighting for a win and fighting for my school just as a warrior would.

	Community	Cite moniker/mascot as connecting SDSU to the community	I appreciate the argument the other side is making but the Aztec name empowers and uplifts the Mexican and Chicano communities in San Diego and helps to illustrate the intrinsic role these people play here in the city. Removing or altering this name in any way would be detrimental to that connection.
Faculty & Staff	Identity	Cite moniker/mascot as part of school identity	I strongly oppose the idea of eliminating the Aztec mascot. I have heard the arguments in favor of this action, but the pride and identity of this school lies in its history, which includes the Aztec.
	Pride	Cite moniker/mascot as instilling a sense of pride in school	I identify myself as Mexican American (Chicana) and I am proud to be represented by the Aztecs and their history.
	Appropriate / respectful	View current representation as appropriate and/or respectful	As an Aztec descendant, neither the moniker or human representation are demeaning or barbaric to me or my family. I feel as though the name should remain with the university as it is part of long history in San Diego.
	Tradition / history	View moniker/mascot as part of school traditions and/or history	
	Honoring	View use of moniker/mascot as honoring Aztec culture	Aztec is a warrior. I like the spirit of fighting for what you want. The imagery is not offensive. Aztec s represent a people who built advanced civilization and that what I would like to think SDSU is being through the programs they offer
Community	Sports	Cite moniker/mascot as part of school identity	People need to stop being so sensitive when it comes to sports!
	Assumptions	Argument based in assumptions	Most native Americans like it. If it's not offending them why change it?
	Too PC	View questioning of moniker/ mascot as overly politically correct	Giving in to politically correct sensitivity, particularly in regards to a civilization that doesn't even exist and hasn't for several hundred years.
	Positive	View moniker/mascot as positive	I think the way the Aztec is represented is beautiful, and as long as the school and community honor what the Aztec represents in a respectful and educated way, it is acceptable.
	Like Aztecs (fun mascot)	View moniker/mascot as fun	I find it fun and in no way disrespectful. It is a fun tradition and a strong characterization...not demeaning.

Table 2. Against the Mascot /Moniker

Anchor Code	Parent Code	Boundary defining description	Example of a segment of text data
Alumni	Appropriation	View use of Aztec / indigenous mascot/moniker as cultural appropriation	As a current student at San Diego state who does not identify as indigenous, I don't think it is for me to decide whether or not there is cultural appropriation with relations to the Aztec moniker.
	Racist	Points directly to connections to systemic issues of racism	Native American community and students speak to how harmful they find it. SDSU is dehumanizing and objectifying a people/history/culture by using an Aztec for a such a role, one coming from the Spanish word mascot - meaning a pet animal. It has long been time to retire this racist cultural appropriation of a symbol and find one that better reflect the values SDSU claims to uphold.
	Offensive	View use of Aztec moniker/ mascot as offensive	It perpetuates a tired, played out, dehumanizing stereotype of indigenous people. The Aztec, self-named Mexica (with several spellings) are an indigenous group from Mexico. The native people of San Diego, the Kumeyaay cannot be forgotten through this process and having an Aztec mascot invokes a disconnection from the physical place on which SDSU is built.
	No human representation	View human representation as problematic	Once a human is added into the equation, you are now objectifying these people.
	Forward thinking	Argues for forward thinking and alignment with more inclusive policies	We live in close proximity to various Native American communities who are our business partners and we continue to use these offensive representations of indigenous communities
	Dislikes cartoon	Prefers human representation to cartoon depictions	I believe that all comic depictions of American Indians should be changed. So much is said about Indians by people who are not Indians. My grandmother said that we, American Indians, have been here forever. I am a member of the Turtle Clan of the Seneca Nation of Indians of the Iroquois Confederacy. Keep the name and the human representation of the Aztec Warrior.

	Colonialism	Points directly to the need to address the effects of colonialism	The use of American Indian mascots as symbols in schools and university athletic programs is particularly troubling because schools are places of learning. These mascots are teaching stereotypical, misleading and too often, insulting images of American Indians. These negative lessons are not just affecting American Indian students; they are sending the wrong message to all students by reinforcing colonialism
	Focus on Academics	View of the moniker/mascot issue as less important to academics	A university is far more than a mascot. Hopefully the institution's reputation is based on academic excellence and not a mascot.
	Pro-indigenous	Argues for consideration and support of indigenous populations	Out of respect for Native Americans as human beings, they should not be represented as mascots--no matter the intention.
Students	Forward thinking	Argues for forward thinking and alignment with more inclusive policies	This has in the past and continues to lead to insensitive comments about Native American's as a whole. As a school that encourages a community of diversity and acceptance I think it is time to put the Aztec mascot to rest.
	Offensive	View use of Aztec moniker/ mascot as offensive	For me, it is humiliating and disgraceful to see the Aztec be used as a prop for the university. This school, this community, this city are all built on indigenous land, and there is no accreditation nor courses discussing their histories, cultures, or presence.
	Culturally insensitive	View moniker/mascot as insensitive to the cultural groups it represents	The mascot is often seen as loud, roust, and party like which is disrespectful. Also, the person chosen to be the mascot also doesn't look much like the Aztecs. Those things should be changed.
	No human representation	View human representation as problematic	Humans and cultures should not be a mascot. Especially if it is white washed and misrepresented. Animals should be mascots, not a people.
	Racist	Points directly to connections to systemic issues of racism	For as long as a culture is made into a costume, it will be racist. For as long as ignorant and privileged people have our mascot and moniker as an excuse to

			perform red face, the SDSU mascot will enable and perpetuate racism.
Faculty & Staff	Dislikes Aztecs	General dislike for the Aztec moniker and/or mascot	The Aztecs practiced human sacrifice. That is reason enough to ditch this identity.
	Forward thinking	Argues for forward thinking and alignment with more inclusive policies	As it stands now, SDSU is the definition of hypocrisy. The mission statement asserts we are committed to furthering social justice and shall cultivate a campus climate that promotes human dignity. Having a mascot that is a barbaric caricature of a diverse society of people is dehumanizing and far from achieving either of those goals.
	Offensive	View use of Aztec moniker/ mascot as offensive	It's racist. It promotes a stereotype. It's offensive. I'd love to keep the SD logo w/ the spear and just be the SDSU Warriors
	No human representation	View human representation as problematic Aztec / indigenous identity	I agree that the human representative should be retired, but not the weaponry. The Aztecs culture be better celebrated. Besides ripping a beating heart out of a chest for human sacrifice, their art, engineering, government, language, education system, food, sport, medicine, etc. are all ingenious parts of their society that should be better celebrated.
Community	Appropriation	View use of Aztec / indigenous mascot/moniker as cultural appropriation	I do not, I really do not have much of an opinion on the topic of appropriation
	Racist	Points directly to issues of racism	I think the arrowhead makes a good symbol, but the human mascot can be seen as stereotyping a race of people.
	Offensive	View use of Aztec moniker/ mascot as offensive	It offends to many people so it needs to be changed.
	No human representation	View human representation as problematic	I'm not offended, but maybe if the guy who depicts the warrior were the right type of Native American, SDSU would get less flack.
	Forward thinking	Argues for forward thinking and alignment with more inclusive policies	Having a Mascot needs to be sensitive to all cultures and people.

Table 3. Considerations

Anchor Code	Parent Code	Boundary defining description	Example of a segment of text data
Alumni	Mexican heritage	Self-identified as having Mexican heritage (ethnic connection to Aztec identity)	As a first generation Mexican-American, I am extremely PROUD that our local state university celebrates my culture, and the culture of a majority of our local population. It's an ode to our roots to have the Aztec be SDSUs mascot. I was never offended as a student, nor am I offended today to have the Aztec warrior be represented in any way. It promotes learning of another culture.
	Native decent	Self-identified a as having indigenous heritage (ethnic connection to Aztec identity)	You have got to be kidding! I am an AZTEC for life. I am a quarter Cherokee and Comanche. It doesn't offend me at all. Honored to be called an AZTEC after a great Nation in Mexico.
	Hispanic decent	Self-identified as having Hispanic heritage (ethnic connection to Aztec identity)	The Aztec symbol and Monty is synonymous with SDSU. I am Hispanic...specifically Mexican as I was born in Mexico. I have Aztec blood from my ancestors. I am not in the least offended by the current Aztec symbols.
	Athlete/sports fan	Cite consideration for connection to and and/or implications for athletics	The Aztec warrior is synonymous with Aztec sports. The warrior represents courage, strength and dignity. He honors a culture long gone. If you get rid of the warrior, you rip the soul out of Aztec sports.
	Hurt funding	Cite loss of alumni support and funding	Should this happen I'll cancel my season tickets and stop donating to the university.
	SDSU West	Cite consideration of the loss of alumni support and funding	Removal of the Aztec identity or the existing Warrior will be a disruptive influence in the community when the focus should be on getting SDSU West approved and moving forward.
	Historical reasoning	Use of historical reasoning in considering position	With regard to being offended, it is common fact that the Aztec was a fierce warrior. Many generations of SDSU grads identify with this moniker, and its association to the school, and our metaphorical approach to academics and life (i.e., fierce warriors).
	Other teams	Use of comparative reasoning based on the mascots and	Ranked in the top 100 Div 1 Mascots by Sports page magazine along with many other Historical Peoples: Spartans,

		representations of other teams	Trojans, 49ers, Rebels, Monarchs, Knights, Colonials, Crusaders, Dons, Minutemen, Friars, etc. This is not a demeaning name.
	Pro Monty	Specific citation to Monty	No Monty...No Money
Students	Mexican heritage	Self-identified as having Mexican heritage (ethnic connection to Aztec identity)	I believe that the Aztec moniker honors the Aztec people and other indigenous people. I have family in certain areas of Mexico such as Mexico City area and Yucatan which are both places rich in indigenous culture. I have discussed this topic with some of my family members and they feel proud that such a prestigious school in America would represent them in such a big and honorable way.
	Native decent	Self-identified as having indigenous heritage (ethnic connection to Aztec identity)	Having the Aztec as our mascot teaches the students of SDSU that cultural appropriation is okay, this mascot does not represent academia and strength, it shows how the painful history and rich traditions of native people are used for entertainment and this school clearly does not care about the psychological damage it does to native student like myself, we need to acknowledge the culture of all.
	Historical reasoning	Use of historical reasoning in considering position	This school has a long history and included in that history is the name and embodiment of the Aztecs. Some may see it as demeaning, or glorification of a warrior nation, but I see it as a honoring a once great nation that lived on these lands thousands of years ago. To use the Aztecs to represent our school is not a disgrace to their heritage, but rather a remembrance of the indigenous people.
	Funding	Cite consideration of the loss of alumni support and funding	I believe getting rid of the Aztec would create a lot of financial problems. We would have to change all of our gear, dorm names, and so on. This would all be so unnecessary, especially when we could put all of that money towards fixing major problems on our campus, such as the old building and dorms. Changing the Aztec is only going to create too many changes that do not need to happen.
	Bad effects of change	Cite consideration of the negative effects of changes	

	Not indigenous	Self-identified as non-indigenous & deferment to the recommendations/choice of others (those with)	I am a white student. I give you full permission to disregard my opinion on this matter in favor of those of a Mexican American descent. Because being white, I am in no place to be offended or to not be offended by this icon. Because I am of the race that has historically subjugated the Aztec people and continues to subjugate it's descendants. But I believe it's time to disrupt the status quo.
	Support for indigenous	Expression of support and/or consideration for the choice/opinion for those of native or Mexican decent	It is offensive to have a mascot wear a headdress as that is just a stereotypical Indian that has been portrayed by the media for over a century. Native people deserve respect.
Faculty & Staff	Athletics	Cite important connection between Aztec identity and school athletics	The Aztecs were a warrior culture up to the time of the Spanish conquest and a "warrior" identity is appropriate for the competitive nature of athletics
	Cost of rebranding	Cite consideration of the cost of rebranding	It would take many resources that the university DOES NOT HAVE to re-brand and reinvent what is already working.
	Funding	Cite consideration of the loss of alumni support and funding	It would be prudent to consider the feelings of thousands of SDSU alumni who are critical to the fundraising life and endurance of San Diego State University as the school makes a decision.
Community	Cost of rebranding	Cite consideration of the cost of rebranding	Changing the Aztec moniker would be an absolute headache and finance nightmare. There are so many things within SDSU that relate to Aztec tradition, from building names, street names, and to names of organizations and student organization symbols/logos.
	Waste of time / resources	View questioning moniker/mascot as waste of time	There are much more pressing issues that should be addressed before worrying about a mascot.

Table 4. Recommendations

Anchor Code	Parent Code	Boundary defining descr	Example of a segment of text data
Alumni	Respectful	Recommend more respectful use of Aztec / indigenous identity	I would recommend having a team that includes people of Aztec heritage to make future decisions. Respect of Aztec culture and traditions should be key
	Representation	Recommend more authentic representation	I believe the college should seek out the opinions of people with Native heritage who feel a connection to the indigenous Aztec culture. We cannot decide what is offensive to other people without seeking their opinions. To decide on their behalf is fundamentally skewed and defeats the purpose of diversity and inclusion. Maybe two human representatives; a man to represent Aztec men (who may all have been expected to be warriors) and a woman representative of Aztec women (perhaps they were warriors too). But the culture would include more than war. Find representations that don't involve weapons.
	Remove weapons	Consider representations beyond weapons	
	Education	Recommend more Aztec / indigenous education	People need to be better educated on the Aztecs and history. Nothing wrong with this moniker
	Other symbols	Consider using / adding other symbols that represent Aztecs	Aztecs were not only known for being warriors but great astronomers, if anything I would like to see that side represented as well!
	Keep name (moniker)	Keep the moniker	Ditching the moniker would ditch the school's identity, alienate its alumni (money), and polarize (shrink) appeal before SDSU West hits the ballot. There is a balance that allows us to still be Aztecs and also be conscientious. We find that, SDSU wins.
	Keep mascot (Aztec)	Keep the current mascot	As a descendent of the great Aztec people, I feel that it is was an honor to attend and graduate from an institution of higher learning that honored the great people. I feel the mascot should stay as long as it done so with class, respect and dignity.

	Inclusive of those against	Willing to consider feelings/opinions of those who are against	I'll admit, It will be a hard transition as I'm so accustomed to calling myself an Aztec for Life, but we have to be more inclusive and listen to people who disagree with the moniker and deem it as insensitive or a form of appropriation.
	Open to recommendations	Deferment to recommendations of others	It's not up to me to decide. Ignore the results of this poll. Ask the current students.
Students	Respectful	Recommend more respectful approach to the use of Aztec / indigenous identity	I believe that the mascot should stay however it should be made more culturally sensitive. The mascot is often seen as loud, roust, and party-like which is disrespectful. Also, the person chosen to be the mascot also doesn't look much like the Aztecs. Those things should be changed.
	Representation	Recommend more authentic representation of Aztec / indigenous people	The only way to keep and maintain the current mascot would be only if the school did more in the realm of institutional reparation for descendants of the peoples SDSU is profiting from.
	Education	Recommend more Aztec / indigenous education	We need to amp up our Indigenous studies program and promote ourselves as a school that uplifts this community, not have the mascot as a mascot purely for this reason
	Other symbols	Consider using / adding other symbols that represent Aztecs	We have multiple options for a new mascot, and it should not be one that culturally appropriates people's cultures.
	Keep name (moniker)	Keep the moniker	Don't take away the name. I understand why the representation could be offensive, but not the name. The name is a staple of San Diego State. We are not using it be offensive, the name Aztecs is used to honor them. Please do not change it.
Faculty & Staff	Representation	Recommend more authentic representation	I believe that it is taking the high road socially for our community to honor the perspectives of Native American/indigenous people to remove all elements that potentially stereotype explicitly or implicitly.
	Education	Recommend more Aztec / indigenous education	We should focus more on educating our internal and external partners about why this is a powerful and important part of

			the University's history and our identity today.
	Other symbols	Consider using / adding other symbols that represent Aztecs	Focus on aspects of Aztec culture other than the warrior - gender equality, agriculture, commerce, arts and the Aztec calendar come to mind.
	Keep name (moniker)	Keep the moniker	The Aztec identity should be celebrated and recognized. If any change takes place it should only enhance the Aztec identity.
	Remove mascot	Express support for removal of the mascot	Every decade, for the past 30 years, this issue surfaces. We have formed committees, addressed new wardrobe, and educational programs. Let's just keep our Aztec name and eliminate the "human mascot".
	Remove weapons	Discontinue the use weapons	It is most definitely a move in the right direction to remove spears, etc. -- those artifact that associate indigenous people as violent.
Community	Keep name (moniker)	Keep the moniker	If the intention is to honor the Aztec people, the name can stay.
	Education	Recommend more Aztec / indigenous education	Actually, Aztec is not well promoted here, I kind of need some research to understand the question, so maybe there should be more effort on that.
	Representation	Recommend more authentic representation	I wish there was an I don't know option. What has the feedback been from the Native American community? That is what I would use to guide the decision.
	Respectful	Recommend more respectful use of Aztec / indigenous identity	Make the warrior as realistic as possible and treat him with dignity.

Table 5. Tone – Attitude toward the study

Anchor code	Parent Code	Child code	oundary defining description	Example of a segment of text data
Alumni	Positive	N/A	Displays an overall positive attitude toward the purpose of the study	Thank you for offering the opportunity for alumni to comment on this issue. I hope that you will make the findings of this survey public regardless of the decision to keep our Aztec identity.
	Negative	Displays an overall negative attitude toward the purpose of the study		
		-So leave -Over-sensitive		So leave – Those that seek to distance themselves from this heritage should just distance themselves from the university Over-sensitive – Please don't give in to the hyper-sensitive political correctness of this generation. Thousands of us proud SDSU alumni still love the Aztecs and the Aztec warrior. This is a silly issue for a huge university to have to deal with.
		-Too bad -Threatening		Too bad - This decision for a new mascot is outrageous! Those who are offended chose to come to SDSU, KNOWING what the mascot was & if they didn't agree w/the mascot, they could've chosen another University. Threatening - I'm an AZTEC for life and if the name or warrior would be taken away I'd never support anything SDSU again.
	Sarcastic	N/A	Answers with sarcasm	LET IT BE RESOLVED: That SDSU adopt the Cardboard Box as the new mascot for the school. Unless of course this offends other boxes not made of cardboard or items of different three-dimensional shapes such as spheres, cylinders, cones, or tetrahedrons.
	No preference	N/A	State no preference or opinion	The controversy formed over this is stupid.
Students	Positive	N/A	Displays an overall positive attitude toward the purpose of the study	Positive - I believe that as a community, we are mature enough to understand that respecting other people's cultures overweighs our personal attachment to a moniker and able to adapt to a new one.

	Negative	N/A	Displays an overall negative attitude toward the purpose of the study	My question is, why are my peoples being up for negotiation!? We are not a costume? Oh yeah I forgot, its most likely WHITE people (the colonizers) who are hesitant whether or not to keep the exotic warrior. Educate yourself on racist ideologies, step it up SDSU, y'all better than this. I don't identify as a native student, but I know that this is an issue that impacts that community Specifically. This survey is a disservice to them because no thorough information about possible outcomes are addressed. I believe that you will receive uneducated responses. It's more than just the opinions of students, it's about the treatment, stereotyping & lack of resources to the community.
	Sarcastic	N/A	Answers with sarcasm	A mythological Aztec doesn't have anything to do with the spirit of the university. Our mascot, at this point, should be the compliance officers.
Faculty & Staff	Positive	N/A	Displays an overall positive attitude toward the purpose of the study	Thank you for allowing us a space to participate in this conversation.
	Negative	Threatening	Threatening to withdraw support	If the mascot is changed, my support and respect for SDSU will be reduced.
Community	N/A			

Note. Comments containing crudeness (coded vulgarity) or hateful comments (coded offensive) were omitted from this code book.

References

Creswell, J. W. & Poth, C. N. (2018). *Qualitative inquiry & research design: Choosing among five approaches* (Fourth ed.). Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications.

FACULTY AND STAFF CODES

FOR MONIKER/MASCOT

a. Appropriate/Respectful
b. Honoring
c. Identity
d. Pride
e. Tradition

AGAINST MONIKER/MASCOT

a. Appropriation
b. Dislike Aztecs
c. Forward Thinking
d. Human Representation
e. Offensive

FACULTY AND STAFF – FOR MONIKER/MASCOT

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

Just leave things as is

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

Keep the Aztec human rep and the Aztec name for SDSU

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

Keep the Aztec Warrior and be proud of its representation.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

Look at the conclusions of previous times this issue has been given public attention within the University.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

Please, please stop this nonsense. Keep the current moniker and mascot and close this once and for all!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

Regarding the task force to investigate and provide recommendations, I thought that SDSU spent money some time ago to do this research. And, those recommendations were implemented to make sure that our representation was appropriate and true to Aztec history.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

SDSU faculty, staff and students are Aztecs for Life and this is important to us. Aztecs were warriors and so are we. We have tried to make the Aztec moniker as "true to life" as possible and I don't think we should replace it.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

The Aztec empire lasted for only 100 years. It developed a culture of wealth and bloodlust. Hundreds were sacrificed to appease the gods; including children in times of drought, as their tears were thought to bring rain. By comparison, the SDSU Aztec warrior is rather benign and

does not denigrate a people group, which thankfully, no longer exist. As a Native American, I have no problem with Monty

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

The Aztec symbolism conveys a powerful message, exemplifying strength and honor. The use of the Aztec moniker does not disparage the Aztec culture. It has been a representation of San Diego State University for several decades and should continue to be the symbol.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring

It's something to be PROUD of! Stop all the nonsense crap that it might hurt someone's feelings! Aztecs are strong warriors, fearless, conquerors, solid....be PROUD!!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

It's not racist. The people that are fighting this really need to get a life tbh. It's preserving the culture

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

It's in part up to the communities who self-identify as "Aztec", though I'm not sure if there are any such groups. I also believe that our students are inspired to learn about Aztec culture and history because of our mascot. Isn't it worse if we erase the memory of the original inhabitants?

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

its been used for over 100 years why all of a sudden the racial crap im mexican/Aztec and I approve this Mascot

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

It's all in peopleâ€™s perspectives and we live in a society where people get offended easily or they just want to argue and be right. In high school, I was a Trojan. In college, I was a Knight. In University, an Aztec for life. I do not see a difference between these 3 historic warriors known for their valor/societal position. I hope you are not basing your decision to please querulous individuals.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Other Symbols FACULTY/STAFF - Cost of rebranding

1: Aztecs had engineers, astronomers, poets and scribes, they had businessmen and women, they had what we at SDSU produce: engineers, Scientists, Businessmen/women, pets, musicians, and overall great members of society. 2: It would take many resources that the university DOES NOT HAVE to re-brand and reinvent what is already working.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Representation

#2 is actually "maybe". The human representation, if done in a tasteful manner, not as a cartoonish "mascot", can support the spirit of the students and alumni.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride

"barbaric" is smb's opinion: the same way any weapon/coat of arms can be described as "barbaric" cannons and swords are not less s barbaric. All weapons are barbaric!
"one of the most beautiful sights in the world is to see them in their battle array. Among them are extraordinary brave men with absolute determination. During combat they sing and dance and sometimes give the wildest shouts and whistles imaginable, especially when they know they have the advantage. Anyone facing them can be terrified by their screams and their ferocity."
KEEP THE AZTECS!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations

A extremely tiny but vocal minority are raising an issue that was reviewed and decided several years ago. Our use of the Aztec identity is respectful and is something that our alumni are proud of. It would be a big mistake to change it.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring

All things considered, being the Aztecs honors, not degrades, the Aztec culture/people.

Codes Applied: ! FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Identity

Although in general I support the dissolution of monikers such as Redskins or Indians, I hope that SDSU keeps the Aztec moniker. 1st, Aztec is not a derogatory term. 2nd, the name on campus is associated with community and not just sports/warriors: We are Aztecs and Aztec for Life are 2 examples of associating Aztec with community. Thank you for asking!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity

Anyone that worked for SDSU for 20+ years is an Aztec forever.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACUTLY/STAFF - Traditions FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

As a faculty member and two-time alum I think that the Aztec moniker and human representation are this school's legacy. They are not demoralizing - they are intended to pay respect to the native americans that have deep roots in this county. It would be a shame to remove the name or the human representation - they are not intended as anything but positive representations.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACUTLY/STAFF - Traditions

As a Hispanic staff member and alumni, keep the Aztec Warrior and maintain a proud tradition!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Positive Tone

As a Mexican I find the use of an Aztec to be of much pride and strength. I do not find it offensive. I believe removing the Aztec from SDSU would be another way to oppress the Mexican culture and be another hard hit to this population.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Representation

As a Mexican-American, I think the Aztec name and appearance is not being misappropriated. I am proud the Aztecs and Aztec culture is recognized. It is not represented as barbaric. Those who oppose the Aztec representation really need to research the ancient Aztec tribes. The Aztecs were not the same as the native american tribes here in the United States and should not be compared to them.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot !

As a woman, I love the buff-looking Aztec Warrior running up and down the stands at games. The Azteca dance troupes dress in a similar fashion and no one complains. I don't see it as disrespectful. Have the Aztecs in Mexico complained?

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes

As an Aztec descendant, neither the moniker or human representation are demeaning or barbaric to me or my family. I feel as though the name should remain with the university as it is part of long history in San Diego.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

As an SDSU alum an employee, the Aztec Warrior is a strong symbol of SDSU. Leave it alone!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride

As graduate (BS & MS) of San Diego State University, now a faculty member, and a 1st generation Mexican-American, I am PROUD that San Diego State has the Aztecs as our symbol. The Aztecs symbol represents pride in our region and community.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations

As long as the university treats the name and warrior with respect, yes, it should stay. Mexicans are proud of the aztec heritage and having it here keeps it alive. The halls and buldings with Aztecs names are amazing reminders so long as they are authentic and respectful

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Positive Tone FACULTY/STAFF - Education FACULTY - Forward Thinking !

As part of the Mexican culture, I believe it is an honor when there is tribute to and an attempt to preserve the Aztec culture. Having an Aztec Warrior as a University representation prompts our University community to engage in learning more about this heritage, and the University is in the right path to illicit conversations that create a more culturally competent community.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACUTLY/STAFF - Traditions FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY/STAFF - Cost of rebranding FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations

At SDSU, we value Aztec tradition, and shall remain Aztecs for life as promised to our student body.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes

Aztec civilication it's period from 1300 to 1521!!! How somebody can be offended and mad about for something that happends 5 centuries ago?

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations

Aztec civilization is an ancient culture and not represented among modern human societies. The SDSU representation of the Aztec culture is very tasteful in its logos and human representation. Stricter rules may be enforced on acceptable mascot behavior at games, if this is an area causing offense. The iconic USC Trojan moniker is in the same class and its legitimacy can be similarly argued..

Codes Applied: ! FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot
FACUTLY/STAFF - Traditions FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations
FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

Aztec community is tied to the Aztec image and regional associations that should be maintained by the university.
Aztec for Life!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Weapons FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF - Representation FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

Aztec iconography is rich in its representation but does not have to be a physical representation replete with sword.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations
FACULTY/STAFF - Education FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes

Aztec is a key part of SDSU's story. We should focus more on educating our internal and external partners about why this is a powerful and important part of the University's history and our identity today.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF- Pride
FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes
FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

Aztec is a warrior. I like the spirit of fighting for what you want. The imagery is not offensive. Aztec s represent a people who built advanced civilization and that what I would like to think SDSU is being through the programs they offer

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Representation!

Aztec is an actual name of a people, not a derogatory label that people made up. I don't see an issue with using the name "Aztecs" or the Aztec Warrior. If a spear is culturally accurate, I don't see a problem with SDSU continuing to use it.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY/STAFF- Other Symbols FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes

Aztec is San Diego State everyone identifies with that and recognizes that it means SDSU. What other representative would you present that signifies with San Diego?

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

Aztec proud. Don't want to become banana slug

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes

Aztec warrior seems to celebrate the Aztec culture, war symbols connote bravery & a nod to its history. The warrior offers a postive spirit,cheering on the school, not barbarism. All war is barbaric, do we call vets barbarians or camouflage barbaric? The Aztec warrior conducts himself with dignity & school pride, connecting the proud history of the Aztecs w/today's pride in school spirit.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF - Tone FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

Aztecs and the Aztec Warrior is tradition and a sense of pride. There are more people in favor of it than the few who oppose it.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF - Tone !

Aztecs are an ancient civilization and therefore I do not think there is any "cultural appropriation" - Trojans, Pirate, Vikings etc. have not raised this issue and it is an incredible waste of time and resources looking into this matter. Leave it alone.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

Aztecs for Life!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

Aztecs for Life!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

Aztecs for Life! Aztecs are warriors that overcame, so are our diverse students

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

Aztecs for Life!!!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

Aztecs Forever

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF - Representation

Aztecs is so much of the SDSU identity in the community, I think it would be a mistake to abandon it entirely. I would be in favor of keeping the name Aztecs and keeping the logo (which includes an arrow) as it is part of our brand. Can we work to improve the representation of the Aztec mascot, or institute a brief traditional Aztec ceremony before athletic events (i.e. drum or dance)?

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Threatening FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot ! FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF- Funding

AZTECS removed in any way shape or form equal no donations.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

Aztecs should be appreciated for the powerful people they were, whose rich heritage SDSU is proud to share and represent not misappropriate

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride ! FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations

Aztecs were fierce. I am proud to be associate with these great warriors. I want to see the Aztec Warrior eat the hearts of our Mountain West foes.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Weapons FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful

Aztecs were fierce. We want to be fierce. I can see losing the spear and keeping the feathered headress and warrior garb. Our name doesn't mean we condone human sacrifices.

Codes Applied: ! FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations

Being a current employee and SDSU Alumni, I fully support keeping the Aztec moniker.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations

Being Hispanic with native american roots I feel it would be an honor to have a my heritage represented.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful

Being of Aztec decent, I thought the use of image and name was appropriate. I don't understand how the use of it was inappropriate.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

Considering the Aztecs are no longer on earth, what a great way to honor an outstanding culture and people.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

Continue to use it done respectfully. I believe the Aztec identity for the university is intended, or should be intended, as a sign of respect for the Aztec culture.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

Donâ€™t change anything.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY- Sports

Don't be myopic. SDSU is the Aztecs. Look at the evidence (Mizzou) - give in on this, and kiss traditions, pride, and our future goodbye

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY- Sports FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

Does Apple Corporation retire their logo because the word apple also refer to a fruit, or has biblical adam-and-eve connotations? The word Aztec can have more than one meaning. Our teamm name and mascot has nothing whatsoever to do with some tribe 500 years ago.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - ConsiderationsFACULTY/STAFF- Funding

Do not succumb to political correctness. Let's not waste our time with this frivolous matter; let's do something more productive for this campus such as the campaign for SDSU Mission Valley. Aztecs for llfe!!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

Do not change anything. I am proud to be an Aztec and to be represented this way.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes !

Don't have strong feelings about the warrior. But as an alumna, I feel a strong emotional connection to the Aztecs. Many of my college friends define themselves as #AztecsForLife. I think you'd lose a lot of Alumi support (and years worth of marketing efforts) by eliminating Aztecs entirely.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

Dont let the voice of the few change the voice ogf the many.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - ConsiderationsFACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

Don't really care whether there is a "human representation of the Aztec Warrior", but I see no reasonable reason to get rid of it.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

Drop the aztec and keep the warrior

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Education FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations

Education is important, sharing cultures and our diversity amongst all students adds value to their education. If we choose to erase cultural representation, the future will be barren of what makes SDSU unique.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - RepresentationFACULTY/STAFF- Other Symbols

Every decade, for the past 30 years, this issue surfaces. We have formed committees, addressed new wardrobe, and educational programs. Let's just keep our Aztec name and eliminate the "human mascot".

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Funding FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

Everything is fine as is. Appropriate adjustments have already been made. If the university does away with the Aztecs name or Traditions, as recently improved to respect the culture, dedicated alumni such as myself will lose our identity with the school which will undoubtedly affect our monetary support

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF - Threatening FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot !

First of all, I am both alumni and staff at SDSU. I strongly oppose the idea of eliminating the Aztec mascot. I have heard the arguments in favor of this action, but the pride and identity of this school lies in its history, which includes the Aztec. As an alumni, I am offended by the notion of this change. If the mascot is changed, my support and respect for SDSU will be reduced.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Other Symbols

Focus on aspects of Aztec culture other than the warrior â€“ gender equality, agriculture, commerce, arts and the Aztec calendar come to mind.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

FYI - We are not the only institution that uses this image. San Diego has Montgomery high school in Chula Vista that has the same image. I think it is respectful and engaging. The current image is a symbol of pride for the university community.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

Go Aztecs!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

o Aztecs!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

GO AZTECS...all hail, revere, respect and honor our campus mascot...Monty Montezuma!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - ConsiderationsFACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation

Has anyone asked the Native American students, faculty what they think? At least the human representation of an Aztec Warrior is not some cheesy mascot. I think this society is going overboard on being too "politically correct".

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACUTLY/STAFF - Traditions FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

Has been moniker for many decades and would serve no purpose to change it now.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF- Funding FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

Having been a professor and student advisor for 34 years, in a department with more diversity than most on campus. Never, not once, did I have a student complain about "The mascot " nor

the "Aztec Identity". This looks like a small minority trying to convince the majority, that the representation of the Aztec Identity, is viewed by many as "offensive" If they succeed? No more support $$, vocal.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

Having the Aztec as a name, mascot and identifier of SDSU is no different than having a Spartan, Trojan or other representation of an ancient people. It is time to put this to rest, keep the Aztec and move on to real issues.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACUTLY/STAFF - Traditions FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations !

He is a warrior. My dad took my to games as a kid and i remember taking pictures with him and looking up to him as a warrior. Now i take my kids to games and they take pictures with him at every game. Its a family tradition and id hate to see it go.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Other Symbols

Honoring the Aztec culture is fine. There must be symbols and representations that are approprite we could use.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

HIstory can NOT be changed. By eliminating the AZTEC MAN, you are attempting to eliminate history. UNACCEPTABLE

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACUTLY/STAFF - Traditions FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

How many times do we have to revisit this issue? I strongly object to the tyranny of a few who demand on revising our campus culture. Letâ€™s put this whining to rest and celebrate the best of SDSU!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

Human representation is less important than the moniker. Perhaps the compromise.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACUTLY/STAFF - Traditions FACULTY/STAFF- Funding FACULTY/STAFF - ConsiderationsFACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

I agree with Charlie Abdelnour: It would be prudent to consider the feelings of thousands of SDSU alumni who are critical to the fundraising life and endurance of San Diego State University as the school makes a decision. I remain a proud son of the university who strongly supports keeping the mighty Aztec warrior as a symbol of endurance, skill and the ability to conquer opponents.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

I am a 27 year employee and our entire extended family graduated from SDSU and everyone in our family strongly disagrees with removing the Aztec name, mascot or moniker of any kind from SDSU. All of these are vital and central to the spirit of the univesity (Go Aztecs!) We are Aztecs ! SDSU Aztecs.... There is absolutely nothing offensive or mis-represented in using the Aztec name or mascot.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

I am a proud alumna of SDSU and have Latino heritage. I strongly agree that we should continue with our history as the Aztecs. I am an Aztec for life!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY- Sports FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

I am a proud Aztec. I bleed black and red. This is a waste of time. Leave SDSU's logo, mascot and whatever else alone. Aztecs forever

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

I am a proud SDSU alumni, and SDSU staff member, and a Native American. I strongly feel that the Aztec moniker is just that; a mascot. It is not offensive, nor demeaning. To get rid of the Aztec moniker or Monte Montezuma would be a huge detriment to SDSU.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

I am a SDSU alumni, I work at a SDSU auxiliary, and I indentify myself as Mexican American (Chicana) and I am proud to be represented by the Aztecs and their history. The Aztec identity should be celebrated and recognized. If any change takes place it should only enhance the Aztec identity. Iâ€™m proud to be an Aztec!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

I am a white Mexican and the blood that runs through my veins through culture and family is the strongest part of me although I'm only a quarter Hispanic. Isn't it a trocity to see where our world has gone concerning the joy of unity and culture division is futile and we will all suffer in the end if we cannot come to a simple loving agreement of one another.
I am AZTEC PROUD

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Weapons

I am Lecturer in Civil Engr Dept & full time engineer with local private company. I, my wife, & close friends & colleagues are very proud & locally successful Alumni, are very big supporters of SDSU and the engr dept, of which the Aztec name is extremely important. I personally don't care either way about the human or spears, but the Aztec name must stay and be celebrated.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF - ConsiderationsFACULTY- Sports FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes ! FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

I am like many people in this country in that I do not have a cultural heritage. Through my employment at SDSU and as a member of the community, I am now an Aztec. It does not offend me that my Aztec heritage is represented with statues or, when the university athletics teams are preparing or engaged in competition, as a hostile warrior. I prefer the current human Aztec to a cartoonish mascot.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring

I am Mexican American, first generation born in the USA. I have hundreds of years of Hispanic, Mexican native, and Mexican traditions in my family. And none of them are hurt, or feel like itâ€™s a misrepresentation or making fun of. Itâ€™s a mascot. We understand. And we love having our culture represented.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

I am Mexican and appreciate the Aztec presence at SDSU. I wouldn't want to tame their history and make them more "civilized". I grew up admiring this culture.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity

I am of Aztec decent and I am proud of having my people represented as the SDSU mascot. I have never been offended by the how we have been represented. I am offended by the continual move to erase all that is indigenous in the name of political correctness.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful

I am of Hispanic heritage and find it absolutley NOT offensive at all.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

I am of Mexican decent with ties leading all the way back to the Zapotecs, close relatives of the Aztecs themselves, and I carry no offense of any kind towards the representation of the Aztecs. The Aztec is a symbol strength and intelligence as they were a great empire and SDSU is a great exemplification of those two traits. Please keep the Aztec and do not let them be forgotten.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Negative Tone!

I am sure you losers will give into the few that cry racism. Especially with a sympathetic latin pres.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

I am undecided on question 2. I think the human representation should be toned down a bit.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful

I appreciate the Aztec culture and don't see the Aztec Warrior as offensive. I know someone of Mexican culture related to the Aztecs and she is proud that the Aztecs is still represented in society today through our school.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF - Education FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF- Pride

I believe more education and a stronger meaning of what the campus FEELS the word Aztec means to us. We/I never thought the Aztec name meant to appropriate a warrior culture. Aztec has always meant a sense of pride and strength--a proud, intelligent and strong people from the past, projected on a campus full of strong, intelligent students.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACUTLY/STAFF - Traditions

I believe SDSU should keep the Aztec Warrior our mascot as it has been tradition and I find nothing offensive or wrong with it.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

I believe that should the usage of the warrior continue it should be more based in historical fact than a romanticized, comedic version.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - RepresentationFACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

I believe that the Aztec culture, and that of Native Americans, can be respected by our community without having to retire the existing symbols. To me, the Aztec warrior represents power and strength and has the potential, if properly used, to inform younger generations about the Aztec culture.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - RepresentationFACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

I believe that the Aztec represents a proud heritage of strong character, rich diversity and many technological advances. They were also mighty warriors. I do not see how the Aztec is barbaric (even though they did things that seemed barbaric such as human sacrifice). For these reasons, I believe the Aztec is a great symbol for SDSU, as long as the Aztec is represented in this way (not barbaricall

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations

I believe that we use the aztec warrior as a sign of strength and toughness. I love what it stands for and would be highly disappointed to have what that stands for taken away from our university. If that was my family name, I would be proud of what it stands for.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACUTLY/STAFF - Traditions FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

I believe the Aztec name and mascot have an ingrained history in San Diego and I do not find them offensive in any way.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - Representation FACULTY/STAFF - Education FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

I believe that we should make tribute and educate the people about the Aztec Culture. Maybe a commercial through out events. A trivia game to see who knows more about the Aztec culture. Include a Map of South America and its architectural advances along with the strength as a warrior. Celebrate who they are and why we as Aztecs identify with them being Aztecs. We are "Aztec Strong"

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF - ConsiderationsFACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF - Representation

I believe the Aztec warrior celebrates the strength and power of a very advanced culture. SDSU is not using the Aztec symbolism in a demeaning or insulting fashion. I think asking actual descendants of the Aztec people if they are upset by this would be much more revealing than the faculty of SDSU, many of whom have little right to claim any umbrage on this topic one way or another.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

I did a clicker poll of 100 students: 85% keep the Aztec, 15% get rid of it. So, we should keep it.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACUTLY/STAFF - Traditions FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

I completed undergraduate & graduate degrees here & have worked at SDSU for over 9 years now. I have so much pride being an Aztec. Over the summer, I took a family vacation to St.

Louis, and there was an older gentleman, mid-70s or late 70s, who saw my Aztec hat and yelled out "AZTECS!" & told us how much he loved attending SDSU.Provide more history & cultural education on Aztecs though.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF - Education FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACUTLY/STAFF - Traditions FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

I believe the task force should help us in defining how we should provide education about Aztecs and how to take care in the usage of the word Aztec. However, taking away the Aztec, Monty & Zuma name would cause damage to alumni identity (there are thousands of them) and how the San Diego community refers to SDSU. Additionally, it is rare for a mascot to look and sound like it's true form...

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful

I don't like the language of "misappropriation of Aztec identity." It is enough that our use and depicting of Aztec is not respectful to the descendants of the Aztec civilization.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I don't mind the human mascot per se. However, as a woman, it is annoying that the embodiment of the ultimate Aztec is a male warrior. I think general Aztecs as mascots is good. That way, there is not one, gendered description. Also, the Aztecs were awesome and there is much to respect and honor. I am proud to say that I am an Aztec, But not Monty or warrior.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I don't think the Aztec moniker should be considered any differently than the many other similar school monikers (e.g. Florida State Seminoles, Edmonton Eskimos, and many others). There is pride and honor to be reflected from those peoples, and SDSU should work to reflect and preserve the best aspects of those cultures.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Education FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

I feel like I don't know enough about why this is so concerning for everyone. I get the general idea, however, I think we need to be more informed of the pros and cons of this debate. In

moving forward perhaps we can stick to the Aztec logo and show the positives to the culture. The Aztec culture is rich and beautiful as opposed to the savage image we have now.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I feel the Aztec Warrior represents a mighty image. He is a representation of a mighty long agoculture that is part of history.I do not feel he is offensive at all.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

i feel the aztec warrior is being portrayed in a positive, non-demeaning manner. i say keep himi!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I feel we should continue to use the Aztec moniker. We need to involve the indigenous people that would be classified as the Aztecs of the past. As long as we have done our due diligence to ensure that we are respecting the past and not tarnishing the aztec people heritage we are fine.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

Make the human representation as accurate as possible to the heritage of the aztec people

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I find the Aztec Warrior human representation to be one that pays homage to the history and culture of a people that no longer exist. The Aztec warrior is inspiring and educational and will surely be forgotten if SDSU strips away the mascot. The Aztec Warrior represents family, community, strength, pride, possibility, opportunity, and hard work.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

I have been a staff member here for three years, and hsve numerous family memebers who have attended SDSU aand are proud alumni. I agree that the human mascot should be retired, but the name should be kept.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I have been on campus since 1962, and aa an Alum as well as a staff person I will always be an Aztec an d hope to have Monty in my life. I grew up in the Campus area and as a little girl I always knew iI would become an Aztec. Do not let that dream for someone else disappear!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I have come to identify myself as an aztec and believe it is part of SDSU culture to become one

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I have grown up in San Diego my whole life and would be greatly sadden to see the Aztecs no longer represented here. The issue is bigger than the Univeristiy, the whole community takes pride in the Aztecs. Students will come and go but the community is here their whole lifes.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

I have mixed feelings about this issue. I am of Mexican descent and I feel that the use of the Aztec warrior is in some respects an honor, but I agree that in the past, the Monty mascot has represented the Aztec as barbaric or clownish, and I don't appreciate that. I'd like us to keep the Aztec name but would be fine with retiring the human representation if it'll make others happy.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

I have no problem with the use of the current Athletic logos. However, the current human representation of the Aztec Warrior does not accurately or appropriately portray historical and cultural facts.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I like to be identified as an Aztec, but I don't like the human representation. I agree with the current use of the Aztec symbol. The use of weapons is only part of the Aztec identity, but it is hard to separate it from the overall Aztec concept. Although it will be nice to include other aspects of the Aztec culture like their art. Overall, I think I will hate to see the Aztec gone.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Education

I love the idea of having all students take a required course on the history of the Aztec civilization.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I see little difference between the Aztecs and the Spartans or the Trojans.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I see no issue with either the name or the representation. It should be an honor for the Aztec culture to be recognized in this manner. SDSU has always represented the Aztec culture with the utmost respect. We have much bigger issues that this to address on campus. Why should a handful of people change something that is so important to a large majority of the poeple. Quit catering to the few

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I see our mascot as a great opportunity to educate people about the Aztecs and I feel that we tastefully represent them without disrespecting them

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Education

Itâ€™s importsnt to distinguish the attributes of educating around the culture and history of Aztecsif the name remains this is an essential component to understand and honor the culture NOT appropriate it

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Education FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

It would be very expensive to totally re-brand the University. I'd suggest highlighting the positive things about the Aztec culture rather than the negative ones. That would result in a skewed representation of a culture, but possible less controversy. There were some horrendous practices in that culture that we do not want to glorify!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Representation FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

It would be nice if the Aztec moniker remained but a different symbol of Aztec culture was used as the "mascot"

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

It sickens me to think of the history of a school will be changed because we wish to have a worrier representin

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF-Pride

it seems to me that the mascot is simply a cartoon-ish character that portrays courage, a fighting spirit, and pride. It is for the Athletic teams and fans to embrace as an identity

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

It seems like there must be some way to honor the Aztec tradition without removing the Aztec as the symbol of SDSU. The reason Aztecs was adopted was probably to honor, and certainly not to deride, the Aztec culture.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

It is the history of the school and it is tastefully represented and shows diversity among the Universities it makes students like myself of Mexican descent feel included and proud to be at a university that accepts my culture and makes others proud to be called aztecs. We can see this even through the Aztec Proud campaign.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

It is surprising to see such an ill informed approach and attitude toward their Aztec Warriior. How do we just divest ourselves of a tradition and one that reflects accurately on the Aztec people? Why is it so hard to honor the past? There must be room in our world for symbols like this without it becoming such a heated issue. History is full of things that are now repulsive. Is the Aztec War

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

It is representative of both Mexican culture and history as well as the connections San Diego brings between the two countries it brings pride and awareness to all

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

It is long overdue to retire the Aztec mascot and identity, which has no relationship either with San Diego or with local Indigenous people. We'll be just fine without it. Please do the right thing and retire the Aztec moniker.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

It is appropriate to keep moniker as long as we treat them with respect and affection. Absence of malice justifies depicting specific cultural icon with affection such as Vikings and Samurai.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF-Appropriate/Respectful

It is an ancient dead culture just like Spartans, Vikings, and SDSU has done a great job in depicting the Aztec culture with respect. It honors the spirit of an ancient culture.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Representation

In the late '60's and ' 70 when Chicano Studies program was being fought for I don't recall the furor of rejecting the Aztec name or the Monte Montazuma figure. Of course in those days Tuffi Avi portrayed a REAL warrior, and dressed the same as the Aztec dancers we had one year at the football games. The warrior we have now just doesn 't cut it in my eyes, as it is a very Anglicized (?) and PC

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF-Remove Weapons

In question 1, I agree to to keep the representation of an Aztec as mascot, but retire the use of weapons that connote barbarism.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

In my personal opinion, the Aztec moniker celebrates and honors historical Aztec culture. There is some concern over barbaric representation, but is what we celebrate at the Miramar Air Show any less savage? I acknowledge the concerns for cultural appropriation, but have reservations over this concept because I worry that it discourages fun, celebratory sharing of diverse cultural experiences.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

In my opinion, the use of Aztec names and symbols indicates an admiration for the Aztec culture, not a demeaning of it. Also, just because a person/symbol has a nickname (Monty) which is basically just a shortening of the full name, does not mean he/it is being disrespected.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

In my opinion, the Aztec identity of SDSU honors the Aztec civilization. It is similar to an identity as Trojans or Spartans. The human representation of an Aztec Warrior is appropriate, although he could perhaps be more fully clothed

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

In a proud Aztec alumni and a school recognizing and having the Aztec as our moniker should celebrated

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I'm was pleased with the previous task force's human representation of our Aztec Mascot. I am horrified as an an alumni and employee to have this discussion brought up again. I will not give up my Aztec Pride.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I'm staff as well as an alum and I am Aztec Proud. I interact with alumni on a daily basis both professionally and personally and every person that I've spoken with about this issue feels we should keep the Aztec as is.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I'm proud to be an Aztec. Leave the moniker. SDSU needs stop giving in to every demand from the community, and actually show some resolve and conviction. Constantly giving in to erroneous demands makes the SDSU administration look weak and disorganized. Obviously this comment is about more than just the renaming of the Aztec moniker

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I'm not alumni so perhaps not as attached to the mascot as others, although I am a native San Diegan and admit there is some nostalgia attached to it. Since the Aztecs were a people, I don't know how you can make that a mascot without human representation. Warriors were a key part of their culture, but so was agriculture

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I'm an Aztec, as in my Grandmother was an indigenous woman who spoke Nuhua as her first language. I have no problem whatsoever with this University's continued useage of Aztec as a symbol, moniker, and/or logo. The term 'Aztec' on this campus has always been associated with pride, with honor, with strength, passion and integrity. And our Aztec mascot, Monty, has always been a source of pride -

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Cost of rebranding FACULTY/STAFF- Funding

I'm agnostic about the moniker, but Iâ€™m opposed to the time and resources this issue consumes when there are more important issues to address. I teach a class where students select a culture to write a final paper about and every year at least one student chooses Aztec culture. They learn a lot, and they view the culture with respect and pride, so for that reason I see the moniker as a good thing.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

I'm adamant about keeping the name, less so about the human representation. I think broadening the human representation to include females, rather than removing humans altogether, would be a move in the right direction. I have always felt that the use of Aztec names and imagery at SDSU has been respectful, but I'm not indigenous.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

If you start here, where do you draw the line? There will always be someone who is offended, or feign offense.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

If we are not Aztecs who are we. If we change who we are, are those who preceded us "others"? Perhaps we could emphasize other aspects of Aztec culture - other than the warrior class.? Did the Aztecs make significant advances in agriculture, engineering, science and math? I

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

If the representation of the Aztec Warrior and their is historical reasons as to why SDSU chose the Aztecs in the first place, I think it's ok to keep them as our mascot. Misrepresenting the Aztecs and/or the Aztec Warrior is what I feel is wrong

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

If the representation demonstrates admiration for the Aztecs, it's a good thing!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

If the image is of something true to actual history, and presented in a positive fashion (which it is). Then I think the Mascot/Logo should remain as is, as long as it is done in a respectful fashion. I think the image is bold, proud, and projects power. What are we going to show? A current day Aztec in a suit?

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF-Keep Name (Monkier)

If the human representation of an Aztec warrior is offensive to the people from that culture, I agree with eliminating it. The rest of the requests are asking too much. Thank you for your time.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Education FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

If the Aztec moniker continues to represent our university then an Aztec history course or Nahautil language course should be a humanities requirement

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

If SDSU wants to be historically accurate, they could have Monty run out onto the court or field and remove the heart from a living sacrifice. Turks do not resent the Trojans, and the Irish seem okay with Notre Dame's leprechaun. This is just identity politics run amok.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I serve on the Academic senate. I voted against the senate resolution. I believe our identity as SDSU Aztecs is important to the university communityâ€”it unites us. At SDSU our complex, diverse, multi-cultural community of scholars, athletes, artists, musicians and people all come together to adopt a common identity. For over nearly 100 years SDSU has loosely interpreted the cultural symbols o

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I strongly believe in tradition and SDSU is unique in this matter. Aztecs are strong and intellectual. We should also focus on the positive aspects of Aztecs other than the negatives.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Weapons FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

I strongly want to keep "Aztecs" for the SDSU identity. I don't really care about the human representation of an Aztec. Let's face it, that culture was pretty brutal, so maybe that's a reason to retire the guy with the spear. But, I want to keep the name and some representation of "Aztec", also the statue of Monty. I agree to a task force if the persons on it are identified. Why the secrecy?

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I think a change from the "Aztecs" to the "Aztec Warriors" would be acceptable

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

I think as an Alum, San Diego native and staff member on campus it is very important to keep the Aztec moniker alive, less important for the human representation. We should honor the culture and create a museum on campus. Don't remove the Aztec name!!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I think eliminating the Aztec moniker and mascot would not serve the university well. I understand being sensitive to students who identify with the Aztec culture, but where does it end?

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Education

I think if SDSU is going to use the Aztec moniker, they should also provide education about the Aztec and their contributions to civilization.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I think in a true democracy, the majority representation should win. The majority of PUBLIC (excluding the SDSU Senate) has ALWAYS been to keep the Aztec identity. We must do something about our campus' overly sensitive PC culture... in this instance there is no malice, bigotry, or hatred in the current Aztec representation. As alumni and staff I take pride being an Aztec!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Education FACULTY/STAFF - Representation

I think in order to keep the human representation of the Aztec Warrior, the person should have to attend a training about what he's wearing and how it's sacred to the Aztec culture. He can learn, experience, and share the Aztec culture with other to grow awareness and pride within our SDSU community

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I think it is important to keep the Aztec moniker for various reasons. With that, there really is not a way to have an Aztec mascot without it being a human or a large stuffed image. The human is the better way to go

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I think it is ridiculous to think about changing the name of the school and the mascot

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

I think Monty the human representation could be offensive to others but I don't believe we should lose the Aztec moniker. Maybe we can have an Aztec Mythologic creature or weapon?

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I think most of us agree that the human representation of the Aztec mascot is not necessary or needed at this time. The moniker on the other hand is something that has brought and brings many generations of this great university together. It is a slippery slope as it could cause alumni to quit donating pending the name change. By removing the mascot, but keeping the moniker, that is fair

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I think that the representation of the Aztec warrior is a respectful one that indeed represents, at least tangentially, some of the students we serve. I view identifying ourselves with such a strong and respectful representation of a native culture of Aztlan to be a strength for our campus as it affirms a commitment to our indigenous community broadly construed.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I think SDSU should be proud to continue to represent the Aztecs. I can understand and encourage finding an alternative to what he carries, and stop the use of "spears, etc."

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

I think the Aztec moniker should stay. "Aztec for life" is very important to being Aztec Alumni. The human Aztec warrior can go if that is most offensive, but do not replace with a 'foam' mascot either.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I think the mascot could be different, but the Aztecs did use spears and weapons, and I don't think that is a problem. But could the mascot look more like a human? Right now it looks like a hairy beast, unless I am missing something

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I think the SDSU community takes great pride in the Aztec identity and as long as it is represented respectfully I think it should be kept

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I think the students vetted these questions several years ago and were happy with what is now current for the Aztec mascot and logos. This is for the students AND Alumni. With the university wanting to acquire Mission Valley for SDSU West Campus, the president would be very UNWISE to annoy over 200,000 alumni who the president will need their vote come November

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I think the use of the Aztecs moniker needs to be investigated. Because Aztec dance is a contemporary art form that is very beautiful and powerful, I think that authentically representing this tradition, which may be hard as a mascot, and keeping the moniker can celebrate this art form

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I think there are many positive ways that we can use the Aztec moniker - We can use this as an opportunity to celebrate the Aztec people, culture, and history. I am in favor of keeping the Aztec identity.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I think there is a way to retain the moniker and perhaps even the human representation that is respectful and that honors rather than diminishes this ancient culture

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Education

I think using Aztec identity can be a positive and respectful if used as opportunity to educate others about the culture and history. Many students and alumni I have communicated with are very proud to be an Aztec

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I think we should keep the name Aztecs, but remove the mascot as if offends others

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Funding

I think you will lose a lot of the alumni support by changing the mascot. We are Aztecs for life!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I view the Aztec moniker and human representation as a done in respectful way and not offensive.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Weapons

I was born and raised in Mexico and I do not feel offended by the usage of the Aztec moniker. Maybe if you loose the weapons, would be more acceptable
I will not give the school any money if they change it

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I worked on the Aztec identity the last time the university did this---and talked to a number of real Aztecs. They strongly approved of using their name and history as it is held up in a very complimentary way. When we worked to provide images of what their culture and religion was, it was barbaric and brutal and they were very proud of it. How about hunger, homelessness, crime, human trafficking?

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I would like to remain an "Aztec for Life!" I can perhaps be persuaded to a character mascot but it MUST be a Warrior nonetheless!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Education

I would not be opposed to keeping the Aztec moniker or the human representation of the Aztec warrior if there was a very strong education component. In addition, the human representation would have to accurately reap resent the culture of the Aztecs and would preferably be a role filled by someone with Aztec roots in their own heritage

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Weapons

I would rely on the task force's outcomes, but I believe there's a role for an Aztec that does not brandish weapons. Aztecs were many things besides warriors..

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

I wouldnâ€™t mind the Aztec Warrior representation as long as itâ€™s not derogatory

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Education

If Aztecs are represented in a respectful and educational way I think it can be a value for those who have the Aztec heritage. It can keep their culture alive and educate the community.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Funding

If changes are make it will cost the University money, not the best thing to do when we are trying to expand the campus in mission valley. Go Aztecs!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

If it were my heritage, I would be thrilled, and in a way, it is as I am an AZTEC FOR LIFE! The questions seem confusing for a real answer ... many may answer in the opposite because of that. GO AZTECS! THE HUMAN MONTY ROCKS

FACULTY AND STAFF – APPROPRIATE/RESPECTFUL
Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful

Let it be. We are aztecs for life! We are not disrespectful

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful

Let's not be crazy here. The Aztec, as represented by SDSU's use, is honorable, strong and could only offend someone fired with the desire to be offended.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful

My ancestors were proud Aztecs and Iâ€™m not offended by the Aztec mascot AT ALL I will tell my children that they have Aztec blood and we are proud of our Aztec identity.The majority of my family members feel that there is no misappropriation: mascot (including human represent). please choice what the majority want even if that is to change the name becaus that is whatdemocracy is all about.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful

Research done the last time was very important. The removal of the cartoon-like image of Monty was very appropriate. The committee traveled to interview ancestors of the Aztecs. They were happy to have the human and realistic representations. They were very appreciative that their heritage wasnâ€™t being forgotten.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful

San Diego State Aztecs and the Aztec Warrior are not cartoonish, and do not carry negative connotations for many San Diegans. We certainly have much more critical issues to tackle than this one.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful

Taking away the Aztec Identity takes away an opportunity for all of us to teach our community how to honor past cultures in an appropriate way.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful

The Aztec are being portrayed as brave strong warriors not as barbaians.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful

The Aztec is a respectful, historically-accurate portrayal of a strong ancient civilization. It is not a charicature or cartoonish representation of the Aztec people. But dialogue through a task force for recommendations is warranted.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful

The Aztec mascot is used to represent our school, and in now way have we provided a negative image of the Aztec. If anything, having the Aztec Warrior, we are showing we believe the Aztec Warrior to be a strong and prominent for our University.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful

The Aztec name and representation are respectful of the history of the Aztec culture . There is no logical reason to change the mascot. To do so in response to a very small minority reflects very badly on the university, which is intended to provide an excellent education to students from our region, while providing a forum for discussion of ideas.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful

The Aztec warrior having a spear and other weapons represents Aztec Warriors in their nature. Calling our representation of the Aztec Warrior barbaric is calling the actual Aztec Warriors barbaric. People who make this as an argument are insulting the warriors.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful

The Aztec Warrior is a proud and respectful representation of a culture that once existed in the Americas. I find the Aztec to represent our region in a unique way, and the Aztec to be respectful.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful

The Aztec Warrior is held in high esteem. Why is it assumed that using "Aztec" as a moniker or having a human respresentation of the Aztec warrior being disrespectful. These things are just as important to SDSU as an institution as is their high quality of the educational experience

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Education

I don't agree with retiring the human mascot for the Aztecs, however it should be noted that the mascot is the Aztec *warrior*. The warrior was a known and respected class of Aztec society, so noting this key point would avoid over-generalization of people of Aztec heritage as violent/barbaric.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations

A extremely tiny but vocal minority are raising an issue that was reviewed and decided several years ago. Our use of the Aztec identity is respectful and is something that our alumni are proud of. It would be a big mistake to change it.

Codes Applied: ! FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Identity

Although in general I support the dissolution of monikers such as Redskins or Indians, I hope that SDSU keeps the Aztec moniker. 1st, Aztec is not a derogatory term. 2nd, the name on campus is associated with community and not just sports/warriors: We are Aztecs and Aztec for Life are 2 examples of associating Aztec with community. Thank you for asking!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACUTLY/STAFF - Traditions FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF-

Honoring FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

As a faculty member and two-time alum I think that the Aztec moniker and human representation are this school's legacy. They are not demoralizing - they are intended to pay respect to the native americans that have deep roots in this county. It would be a shame to remove the name or the human representation - they are not intended as anything but positive representations.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Positive Tone

As a Mexican I find the use of an Aztec to be of much pride and strength. I do not find it offensive. I believe removing the Aztec from SDSU would be another way to oppress the Mexican culture and be another hard hit to this population.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes

As an Aztec descendant, neither the moniker or human representation are demeaning or barbaric to me or my family. I feel as though the name should remain with the university as it is part of long history in San Diego.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

Aztec is a warrior. I like the spirit of fighting for what you want. The imagery is not offensive. Aztec s represent a people who built advanced civilization and that what I would like to think SDSU is being through the programs they offer

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF-

Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Representation!

Aztec is an actual name of a people, not a derogatory label that people made up. I don't see an issue with using the name "Aztecs" or the Aztec Warrior. If a spear is culturally accurate, I don't see a problem with SDSU continuing to use it.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes

Aztec warrior seems to celebrate the Aztec culture, war symbols connote bravery & a nod to its history. The warrior offers a postive spirit,cheering on the school, not barbarism. All war is barbaric, do we call vets barbarians or camouflage barbaric? The Aztec warrior conducts himself with dignity & school pride, connecting the proud history of the Aztecs w/today's pride in school spirit.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF - Tone !

Aztecs are an ancient civilization and therefore I do not think there is any "cultural appropriation" - Trojans, Pirate, Vikings etc. have not raised this issue and it is an incredible waste of time and resources looking into this matter. Leave it alone.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

Aztecs should be appreciated for the powerful people they were, whose rich heritage SDSU is proud to share and represent not misappropriate

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Weapons FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful

Aztecs were fierce. We want to be fierce. I can see losing the spear and keeping the feathered headress and warrior garb. Our name doesn't mean we condone human sacrifices.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful

Being of Aztec decent, I thought the use of image and name was appropriate. I don't understand how the use of it was inappropriate.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

Continue to use it done respectfully. I believe the Aztec identity for the university is intended, or should be intended, as a sign of respect for the Aztec culture.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

FYI - We are not the only institution that uses this image. San Diego has Montgomery high school in Chula Vista that has the same image. I think it is respectful and engaging. The current image is a symbol of pride for the university community.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF- Funding FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

Having been a professor and student advisor for 34 years, in a department with more diversity than most on campus. Never, not once, did I have a student complain about "The mascot " nor the "Aztec Identity". This looks like a small minority trying to convince the majority, that the representation of the Aztec Identity, is viewed by many as "offensive" If they succeed? No more support $$, vocal.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

Having the Aztec as a name, mascot and identifier of SDSU is no different than having a Spartan, Trojan or other representation of an ancient people. It is time to put this to rest, keep the Aztec and move on to real issues.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

I am a 27 year employee and our entire extended family graduated from SDSU and everyone in our family strongly disagrees with removing the Aztec name, mascot or moniker of any kind from SDSU. All of these are vital and central to the spirit of the univesity (Go Aztecs!) We are Aztecs ! SDSU Aztecs.... There is absolutely nothing offensive or mis-represented in using the Aztec name or mascot.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

I am a proud SDSU alumni, and SDSU staff member, and a Native American. I strongly feel that the Aztec moniker is just that; a mascot. It is not offensive, nor demeaning. To get rid of the Aztec moniker or Monte Montezuma would be a huge detriment to SDSU.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF - ConsiderationsFACULTY- Sports FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes ! FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

I am like many people in this country in that I do not have a cultural heritage. Through my employment at SDSU and as a member of the community, I am now an Aztec. It does not offend me that my Aztec heritage is represented with statues or, when the university athletics teams are preparing or engaged in competition, as a hostile warrior. I prefer the current human Aztec to a cartoonish mascot.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful

I am of Hispanic heritage and find it absolutley NOT offensive at all.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful

I appreciate the Aztec culture and don't see the Aztec Warrior as offensive. I know someone of Mexican culture related to the Aztecs and she is proud that the Aztecs is still represented in society today through our school.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF - ConsiderationsFACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF - Representation

I believe the Aztec warrior celebrates the strength and power of a very advanced culture. SDSU is not using the Aztec symbolism in a demeaning or insulting fashion. I think asking actual descendants of the Aztec people if they are upset by this would be much more revealing than the faculty of SDSU, many of whom have little right to claim any umbrage on this topic one way or another.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful

I don't like the language of "misappropriation of Aztec identity." It is enough that our use and depicting of Aztec is not respectful to the descendants of the Aztec civilization.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful

It is an ancient dead culture just like Spartans, Vikings, and SDSU has done a great job in depicting the Aztec culture with respect. It honors the spirit of an ancient culture.

FACULTY AND STAFF - HONORING
Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring

my opinion is that this should be looked on as an honer to represent a major university rather than as an insult or slap in the face

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring

Never, ever would I wish to misrepresent/disparage any culture; but Aztecs WERE warriors, and fiercely proud. As part Mexican, I find the representation of a strong, non-white, hero inspiring.

Other than firearms/sailing, the Aztecs were vastly ahead of the Conquistador homeland in myriad ways (they had plumbing for gods sake). Viva MÃ©xico en San Diego?!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring

Our Aztec honors a long extinct culture that deserves to be remembered, not forgotten.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring

Rather than considering the symbol of the Aztec warrior an insult, he should be looked at as an homage to a great people. It speaks to their strength that we, as a university, seek to have them as our representative.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring

SDSU honors the Aztec name and the Aztec Warrior! The honor is mutually reinforcing of the good in each!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring

SDSU moniker is honoring the Aztec heritage not demeaning them. Also, if the Viejas community thought SDSU was being disrespectful to Indian culture they would not have sponsored and put their name on Viejas Arena on SDSU's campus.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring

SDSU's identity as Aztecs provides recognition of a culture in the Americas that predates European influence. The Senate's Resolution calling for the purge of all Aztec references on campus, including art work, seems oddly Trump-like.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring

SDSU's use of the Aztec moniker aims to honor the resilience and "fighting" spirit of the Aztec culture.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important issue. I think that the current mascot should be kept in its current form because to me it portrays the University and the Aztecs as a strong group. Many students and alumni are proud to call themselves Aztecs for Life. It is

my opinion that our mascot is a positive representative of our University and would like to see it continue.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring

The Aztec is honorable and reasonable.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring

The Aztec moniker and warrior are not cultural appropriations or discriminatory, bur celebratory of a successful population.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring

he Aztec people were highly intelligent! While there may be heritage that goes back to Aztec people, there is not a specific people who identify as Aztecs in modernity. The spears were indicative of their era, why are they "barbaric?" So who are we offending? And I would be honored to have a team named after me.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring

The Aztec Warrior has been a representation of SDSU for years. We honor that name and hold respect to it. In no way shape or form is what we are doing with the mascot offensive or demeaning. If anything we are honoring a culture.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring

The Azteec name is essential, we are honoring a culture Cotez desroyed.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring

The current representation of the Aztec Warrior is that of a strong proud warrior, I would be VERY disappointed to see this taken away!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring

It's something to be PROUD of! Stop all the nonsense crap that it might hurt someone's feelings! Aztecs are strong warriors, fearless, conquerors, solid....be PROUD!!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring

All things considered, being the Aztecs honors, not degrades, the Aztec culture/people.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACUTLY/STAFF - Traditions FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

As a faculty member and two-time alum I think that the Aztec moniker and human representation are this school's legacy. They are not demoralizing - they are intended to pay respect to the native americans that have deep roots in this county. It would be a shame to remove the name or the human representation - they are not intended as anything but positive representations.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Representation

As a Mexican-American, I think the Aztec name and appearance is not being misappropriated. I am proud the Aztecs and Aztec culture is recognized. It is not represented as barbaric. Those who oppose the Aztec representation really need to research the ancient Aztec tribes. The Aztecs were not the same as the native american tribes here in the United States and should not be compared to them.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes

As an Aztec descendant, neither the moniker or human representation are demeaning or barbaric to me or my family. I feel as though the name should remain with the university as it is part of long history in San Diego.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Positive Tone FACULTY/STAFF - Education FACULTY - Forward Thinking !

As part of the Mexican culture, I believe it is an honor when there is tribute to and an attempt to preserve the Aztec culture. Having an Aztec Warrior as a University representation prompts our University community to engage in learning more about this heritage, and the University is in the right path to illicit conversations that create a more culturally competent community.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

Aztec is a warrior. I like the spirit of fighting for what you want. The imagery is not offensive. Aztec s represent a people who built advanced civilization and that what I would like to think SDSU is being through the programs they offer

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

Considering the Aztecs are no longer on earth, what a great way to honor an outstanding culture and people.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

Continue to use it done respectfully. I believe the Aztec identity for the university is intended, or should be intended, as a sign of respect for the Aztec culture.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Other Symbols

Honoring the Aztec culture is fine. There must be symbols and representations that are approprite we could use.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring

I am Mexican American, first generation born in the USA. I have hundreds of years of Hispanic, Mexican native, and Mexican traditions in my family. And none of them are hurt, or feel like itâ€™s a misrepresentation or making fun of. Itâ€™s a mascot. We understand. And we love having our culture represented.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

I am of Mexican decent with ties leading all the way back to the Zapotecs, close relatives of the Aztecs themselves, and I carry no offense of any kind towards the representation of the Aztecs. The Aztec is a symbol strength and intelligence as they were a great empire and SDSU is a great exemplification of those two traits. Please keep the Aztec and do not let them be forgotten.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF - Education FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF- Pride

I believe more education and a stronger meaning of what the campus FEELS the word Aztec means to us. We/I never thought the Aztec name meant to appropriate a warrior culture. Aztec has always meant a sense of pride and strength--a proud, intelligent and strong people from the past, projected on a campus full of strong, intelligent students.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations

I believe that we use the aztec warrior as a sign of strength and toughness. I love what it stands for and would be highly disappointed to have what that stands for taken away from our university. If that was my family name, I would be proud of what it stands for.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - Representation FACULTY/STAFF - Education FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

I believe that we should make tribute and educate the people about the Aztec Culture. Maybe a commercial through out events. A trivia game to see who knows more about the Aztec culture. Include a Map of South America and its architectural advances along with the strength as a

warrior. Celebrate who they are and why we as Aztecs identify with them being Aztecs. We are "Aztec Strong"

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF - ConsiderationsFACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF - Representation

I believe the Aztec warrior celebrates the strength and power of a very advanced culture. SDSU is not using the Aztec symbolism in a demeaning or insulting fashion. I think asking actual descendants of the Aztec people if they are upset by this would be much more revealing than the faculty of SDSU, many of whom have little right to claim any umbrage on this topic one way or another.

FACULTY AND STAFF – IDENTITY

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Identity

Most Universities have an Identity. Ours happens to be the Aztec warrior. We should be proud of our school Identity and stop worrying about being politically correct.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Identity

The Aztec moniker and usage of symbols has brought more people together as students/faculty/staff/alumni than has forced people apart. To take away a school's identity and brand recognition based on a non-Aztec person's personal belief is shameful and unnecessary.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Identity

The Aztec moniker, human representation and story is history and you DO NOT and SHOULD NOT change history because people are emotional and offended. It is a accurate portrayal of the life of Aztecs. SDSUs history should not be changed and loose all our identity.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Identity

The aztecs were barbaric in their rituals but there is more to their way of life. I do not believe the Aztec symbol should be removed as a whole, there could be some improvement as to the education of who they were. Why remove the mascot when it is a representation of San Diego State University, I am an alumni and identify myself as an SDSU Aztec and in no way take offense.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations

A extremely tiny but vocal minority are raising an issue that was reviewed and decided several years ago. Our use of the Aztec identity is respectful and is something that our alumni are proud of. It would be a big mistake to change it.

Codes Applied: ! FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Identity

Although in general I support the dissolution of monikers such as Redskins or Indians, I hope that SDSU keeps the Aztec moniker. 1st, Aztec is not a derogatory term. 2nd, the name on campus is associated with community and not just sports/warriors: We are Aztecs and Aztec for Life are 2 examples of associating Aztec with community. Thank you for asking!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity

Anyone that worked for SDSU for 20+ years is an Aztec forever.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF - Education FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes

Aztec is a key part of SDSU's story. We should focus more on educating our internal and external partners about why this is a powerful and important part of the University's history and our identity today.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY/STAFF- Other Symbols FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes

Aztec is San Diego State everyone identifies with that and recognizes that it means SDSU. What other representative would you present that signifies with San Diego?

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF - Representation

Aztecs is so much of the SDSU identity in the community, I think it would be a mistake to abandon it entirely. I would be in favor of keeping the name Aztecs and keeping the logo (which includes an arrow) as it is part of our brand. Can we work to improve the representation of the Aztec mascot, or institute a brief traditional Aztec ceremony before athletic events (i.e. drum or dance)?

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

Continue to use it done respectfully. I believe the Aztec identity for the university is intended, or should be intended, as a sign of respect for the Aztec culture.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY- Sports

Don't be myopic. SDSU is the Aztecs. Look at the evidence (Mizzou) - give in on this, and kiss traditions, pride, and our future goodbye

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes !

Don't have strong feelings about the warrior. But as an alumna, I feel a strong emotional connection to the Aztecs. Many of my college friends define themselves as #AztecsForLife. I think you'd lose a lot of Alumi support (and years worth of marketing efforts) by eliminating Aztecs entirely.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Funding FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot

Everything is fine as is. Appropriate adjustments have already been made. If the university does away with the Aztecs name or Traditions, as recently improved to respect the culture, dedicated alumni such as myself will lose our identity with the school which will undoubtedly affect our monetary support

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF - Threatening

FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot !

First of all, I am both alumni and staff at SDSU. I strongly oppose the idea of eliminating the Aztec mascot. I have heard the arguments in favor of this action, but the pride and identity of this school lies in its history, which includes the Aztec. As an alumni, I am offended by the notion of this change. If the mascot is changed, my support and respect for SDSU will be reduced.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF- Funding FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

Having been a professor and student advisor for 34 years, in a department with more diversity than most on campus. Never, not once, did I have a student complain about "The mascot " nor the "Aztec Identity". This looks like a small minority trying to convince the majority, that the representation of the Aztec Identity, is viewed by many as "offensive" If they succeed? No more support $$, vocal.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

I am a 27 year employee and our entire extended family graduated from SDSU and everyone in our family strongly disagrees with removing the Aztec name, mascot or moniker of any kind from SDSU. All of these are vital and central to the spirit of the univesity (Go Aztecs!) We are Aztecs ! SDSU Aztecs.... There is absolutely nothing offensive or mis-represented in using the Aztec name or mascot.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY- Sports FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

I am a proud Aztec. I bleed black and red. This is a waste of time. Leave SDSU's logo, mascot and whatever else alone. Aztecs forever

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

I am a SDSU alumni, I work at a SDSU auxiliary, and I indentify myself as Mexican American (Chicana) and I am proud to be represented by the Aztecs and their history. The Aztec identity should be celebrated and recognized. If any change takes place it should only enhance the Aztec identity. Iâ€™m proud to be an Aztec!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

I am a white Mexican and the blood that runs through my veins through culture and family is the strongest part of me although I'm only a quarter Hispanic. Isn't it a trocity to see where our world has gone concerning the joy of unity and culture division is futile and we will all suffer in the end if we cannot come to a simple loving agreement of one another.
I am AZTEC PROUD

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF - ConsiderationsFACULTY- Sports FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes ! FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

I am like many people in this country in that I do not have a cultural heritage. Through my employment at SDSU and as a member of the community, I am now an Aztec. It does not offend me that my Aztec heritage is represented with statues or, when the university athletics teams are preparing or engaged in competition, as a hostile warrior. I prefer the current human Aztec to a cartoonish mascot.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring

I am Mexican American, first generation born in the USA. I have hundreds of years of Hispanic, Mexican native, and Mexican traditions in my family. And none of them are hurt, or feel like itâ€™s a misrepresentation or making fun of. Itâ€™s a mascot. We understand. And we love having our culture represented.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity

I am of Aztec decent and I am proud of having my people represented as the SDSU mascot. I have never been offended by the how we have been represented. I am offended by the continual move to erase all that is indigenous in the name of political correctness.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

I am of Mexican decent with ties leading all the way back to the Zapotecs, close relatives of the Aztecs themselves, and I carry no offense of any kind towards the representation of the Aztecs. The Aztec is a symbol strength and intelligence as they were a great empire and SDSU is a great exemplification of those two traits. Please keep the Aztec and do not let them be forgotten.

FACULTY AND STAFF – PRIDE

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Pride

Ramona Perez has given a great talk about this effort many times and she has more insight than anyone else on campus. She has affirmed that this is not an issue for descendants of the Aztecs, in fact it is consistently mentioned as a point of pride.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Pride

The "Aztec" has been our noted symbol for over 100 years. Retain it with pride.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Pride

The Aztec moniker and mascot are symbols of pride and spirit at SDSU. There is no misunderstanding of their intent and purpose. The symbolism does not spark conversation in public about the negativity some seem to think it represents.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Pride

The Aztec Warrior is a represents strength and cultural pride. I am a staff member ot SDSU and a l ifetime Alumni. The university will lose a lot of their Alumnus if they make this change!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Pride

The Aztec warrior is NOT a derogatory symbol, but one of Pride for Aztecs. This is no different than any military ad/symbols and/or representation of military service personnel in our current culture.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Pride

The Aztecs represent a strong and dominant civilization with a fierce and competitive spirit. SDSU should be proud to have the Aztec Warrior as their mascot.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring

It's something to be PROUD of! Stop all the nonsense crap that it might hurt someone's feelings! Aztecs are strong warriors, fearless, conquerors, solid....be PROUD!!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride

"barbaric" is smb's opinion: the same way any weapon/coat of arms can be described as "barbaric" cannons and swords are not less s barbaric. All weapons are barbaric!
"one of the most beautiful sights in the world is to see them in their battle array. Among them are extraordinary brave men with absolute determination. During combat they sing and dance and sometimes give the wildest shouts and whistles imaginable, especially when they know they have the advantage. Anyone facing them can be terrified by their screams and their ferocity."
KEEP THE AZTECS!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations

A extremely tiny but vocal minority are raising an issue that was reviewed and decided several years ago. Our use of the Aztec identity is respectful and is something that our alumni are proud of. It would be a big mistake to change it.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACUTLY/STAFF - Traditions

As a Hispanic staff member and alumni, keep the Aztec Warrior and maintain a proud tradition!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Positive Tone

As a Mexican I find the use of an Aztec to be of much pride and strength. I do not find it offensive. I believe removing the Aztec from SDSU would be another way to oppress the Mexican culture and be another hard hit to this population.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Representation

As a Mexican-American, I think the Aztec name and appearance is not being misappropriated. I am proud the Aztecs and Aztec culture is recognized. It is not represented as barbaric. Those who oppose the Aztec representation really need to research the ancient Aztec tribes. The Aztecs were not the same as the native american tribes here in the United States and should not be compared to them.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride

As graduate (BS & MS) of San Diego State University, now a faculty member, and a 1st generation Mexican-American, I am PROUD that San Diego State has the Aztecs as our symbol. The Aztecs symbol represents pride in our region and community.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations

As long as the university treats the name and warrior with respect, yes, it should stay. Mexicans are proud of the aztec heritage and having it here keeps it alive. The halls and buldings with Aztecs names are amazing reminders so long as they are authentic and respectful

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF - Education FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes

Aztec is a key part of SDSU's story. We should focus more on educating our internal and external partners about why this is a powerful and important part of the University's history and our identity today.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

Aztec is a warrior. I like the spirit of fighting for what you want. The imagery is not offensive. Aztec s represent a people who built advanced civilization and that what I would like to think SDSU is being through the programs they offer

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

Aztec proud. Don't want to become banana slug

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes

Aztec warrior seems to celebrate the Aztec culture, war symbols connote bravery & a nod to its history. The warrior offers a postive spirit,cheering on the school, not barbarism. All war is barbaric, do we call vets barbarians or camouflage barbaric? The Aztec warrior conducts himself with dignity & school pride, connecting the proud history of the Aztecs w/today's pride in school spirit.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF - Tone FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

Aztecs and the Aztec Warrior is tradition and a sense of pride. There are more people in favor of it than the few who oppose it.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

Aztecs should be appreciated for the powerful people they were, whose rich heritage SDSU is proud to share and represent not misappropriate

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride ! FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations

Aztecs were fierce. I am proud to be associate with these great warriors. I want to see the Aztec Warrior eat the hearts of our Mountain West foes.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations

Being Hispanic with native american roots I feel it would be an honor to have a my heritage represented.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF - Threatening FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot !

First of all, I am both alumni and staff at SDSU. I strongly oppose the idea of eliminating the Aztec mascot. I have heard the arguments in favor of this action, but the pride and identity of this school lies in its history, which includes the Aztec. As an alumni, I am offended by the notion of this change. If the mascot is changed, my support and respect for SDSU will be reduced.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

FYI - We are not the only institution that uses this image. San Diego has Montgomery high school in Chula Vista that has the same image. I think it is respectful and engaging. The current image is a symbol of pride for the university community.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACUTLY/STAFF - Traditions FACULTY/STAFF- Funding FACULTY/STAFF - ConsiderationsFACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

I agree with Charlie Abdelnour: It would be prudent to consider the feelings of thousands of SDSU alumni who are critical to the fundraising life and endurance of San Diego State University as the school makes a decision. I remain a proud son of the university who strongly supports keeping the mighty Aztec warrior as a symbol of endurance, skill and the ability to conquer opponents.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

I am a proud alumna of SDSU and have Latino heritage. I strongly agree that we should continue with our history as the Aztecs. I am an Aztec for life!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY- Sports FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

I am a proud Aztec. I bleed black and red. This is a waste of time. Leave SDSU's logo, mascot and whatever else alone. Aztecs forever

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

I am a SDSU alumni, I work at a SDSU auxiliary, and I indentify myself as Mexican American (Chicana) and I am proud to be represented by the Aztecs and their history. The Aztec identity should be celebrated and recognized. If any change takes place it should only enhance the Aztec identity. Iâ€™m proud to be an Aztec!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

I am Mexican and appreciate the Aztec presence at SDSU. I wouldn't want to tame their history and make them more "civilized". I grew up admiring this culture.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Identity FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring

FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

I am of Mexican decent with ties leading all the way back to the Zapotecs, close relatives of the Aztecs themselves, and I carry no offense of any kind towards the representation of the Aztecs. The Aztec is a symbol strength and intelligence as they were a great empire and SDSU is a great exemplification of those two traits. Please keep the Aztec and do not let them be forgotten.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF - Education FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF- Pride

I believe more education and a stronger meaning of what the campus FEELS the word Aztec means to us. We/I never thought the Aztec name meant to appropriate a warrior culture. Aztec has always meant a sense of pride and strength--a proud, intelligent and strong people from the past, projected on a campus full of strong, intelligent students.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations

I believe that we use the aztec warrior as a sign of strength and toughness. I love what it stands for and would be highly disappointed to have what that stands for taken away from our university. If that was my family name, I would be proud of what it stands for.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACUTLY/STAFF - Traditions FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

I completed undergraduate & graduate degrees here & have worked at SDSU for over 9 years now. I have so much pride being an Aztec. Over the summer, I took a family vacation to St. Louis, and there was an older gentleman, mid-70s or late 70s, who saw my Aztec hat and yelled out "AZTECS!" & told us how much he loved attending SDSU.Provide more history & cultural education on Aztecs though.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride

it seems to me that the mascot is simply a cartoon-ish character that portrays courage, a fighting spirit, and pride. It is for the Athletic teams and fans to embrace as an identity

FACULTY AND STAFF – TRADITION

Codes Applied: FACUTLY/STAFF - Traditions

Keep the Aztec and the Aztec Warrior this is tradition and only a small group of people want it removed. Stand up SDSU and stick with tradition and stop worrying about being PC.

Codes Applied: FACUTLY/STAFF - Traditions

Keeping the Aztec Moniker and Human Rep is, to me, a great way to keep the Aztec culture/history ALIVE and not just in history books. The Aztecs died out nearly 500 years ago. Keeping the fierce warrior and the moniker are signs of respect, honor, and favor. Just because students didn't do it "right" decades ago, doesn't mean we aren't striving to do it "right" now. KEEP THE AZTEC!!!

Codes Applied: FACUTLY/STAFF - Traditions

leave the university heritage alone. The Aztec warrior was a great person, let's celebrate him in our American history and university history

Codes Applied: FACUTLY/STAFF - Traditions

SDSU has been know as Aztecs since University was founded. Keep Aztec name and educate campus and community on the history of Aztecs in San Diego.

Codes Applied: FACUTLY/STAFF - Traditions

SDSU has a long and proud history connected to the Aztecs. It celebrates what is best about Aztec culture and does so with respect. To remove that or even redefine it comes with great risk to our students, to our reputation in the community and our recognition nationally. Few of the voices that want them removed have much involvement in the larger life of SDSU or are thinking for the long-term.

Codes Applied: FACUTLY/STAFF - Traditions

The Aztec is part of the SDSU history and brings the University together. It is not portrayed in an offensive manner and has been removed from University promotion almost entirely.

Codes Applied: FACUTLY/STAFF - Traditions

The Aztec Warrior represents a strong brave individual from the advanced Aztec Empire & is part of the heritage of the university & Pacific region. If a U.S. Marine was a mascot, would that be eradicated because of the recent child pornography and drug rings?

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACUTLY/STAFF - Traditions FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

As a faculty member and two-time alum I think that the Aztec moniker and human representation are this school's legacy. They are not demoralizing - they are intended to pay respect to the native americans that have deep roots in this county. It would be a shame to remove the name or the human representation - they are not intended as anything but positive representations.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACUTLY/STAFF - Traditions

As a Hispanic staff member and alumni, keep the Aztec Warrior and maintain a proud tradition!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACUTLY/STAFF - Traditions FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY/STAFF - Cost of rebranding FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations

At SDSU, we value Aztec tradition, and shall remain Aztecs for life as promised to our student body.

Codes Applied: ! FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACUTLY/STAFF - Traditions FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

Aztec community is tied to the Aztec image and regional associations that should be maintained by the university.
Aztec for Life!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACUTLY/STAFF - Traditions FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

Has been moniker for many decades and would serve no purpose to change it now.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACUTLY/STAFF - Traditions FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations !

He is a warrior. My dad took my to games as a kid and i remember taking pictures with him and looking up to him as a warrior. Now i take my kids to games and they take pictures with him at every game. Its a family tradition and id hate to see it go.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACUTLY/STAFF - Traditions FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

How many times do we have to revisit this issue? I strongly object to the tyranny of a few who demand on revising our campus culture. Letâ€™s put this whining to rest and celebrate the best of SDSU!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACUTLY/STAFF - Traditions FACULTY/STAFF- Funding FACULTY/STAFF - ConsiderationsFACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

I agree with Charlie Abdelnour: It would be prudent to consider the feelings of thousands of SDSU alumni who are critical to the fundraising life and endurance of San Diego State University as the school makes a decision. I remain a proud son of the university who strongly supports keeping the mighty Aztec warrior as a symbol of endurance, skill and the ability to conquer opponents.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACUTLY/STAFF - Traditions

I believe SDSU should keep the Aztec Warrior our mascot as it has been tradition and I find nothing offensive or wrong with it.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACUTLY/STAFF - Traditions FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

I believe the Aztec name and mascot have an ingrained history in San Diego and I do not find them offensive in any way.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Pride FACUTLY/STAFF - Traditions FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

I completed undergraduate & graduate degrees here & have worked at SDSU for over 9 years now. I have so much pride being an Aztec. Over the summer, I took a family vacation to St. Louis, and there was an older gentleman, mid-70s or late 70s, who saw my Aztec hat and yelled out "AZTECS!" & told us how much he loved attending SDSU.Provide more history & cultural education on Aztecs though.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF - Education FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACUTLY/STAFF - Traditions FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

I believe the task force should help us in defining how we should provide education about Aztecs and how to take care in the usage of the word Aztec. However, taking away the Aztec, Monty & Zuma name would cause damage to alumni identity (there are thousands of them) and how the San Diego community refers to SDSU. Additionally, it is rare for a mascot to look and sound like it's true form...

FACULTY AND STAFF – AGAINST MONIKER/MASCOT OVERALL

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec

Removing the Warrior makes perfect sense. Removing "usage of weapons that connote barbaric representation" is literally misrepresenting Aztecs. Their sole education system was based on training soldiers. This controversy is conflating issues involving indigenous rights in the US and in doing so, misrepresents Aztec culture. I do howeverstrongly support more connections to the local Kumeyaay bands.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY - Offensive

It's the 21st Century. The appropriation of the Aztec civilization as SDSU's moniker is historically inaccurate and morally inappropriate.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec

It's racist! We need to increase access and retention to native american students and this is not an inclusive for the student population.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec

It's pretty weird to call yourselves the Aztecs when the Nahua are still around. Why don't we call ourselves the Germans? Or the Canadians?

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriation FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

A culture is not a mascot. Thank you for finally moving to change this!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Other Symbols FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

A people should not be a mascot. Pick an animal or a plant.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF- Other Symbols FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

Adopt an animal important to the Aztec culture, like the Jaguar. You could keep aspects of the SDSU "Aztec" culture, like the buildings names, etc. You could even stylize the Jaguar so it looked "Aztec." We need to just move on from our Generic Aztec Warrior mascot.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY - Offensive FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - Education FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

Agree with retiring the human representation but keep the usage of spears or weapons. I also agree with creating a class on Aztec identity.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY - Forward Thinking FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF - Representation FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

Although I personally Donâ€™t have any objection, we need to be sensitive to all of the ethnicities. Perhaps a more suitable representation can be considered .

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriation FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - Representation FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

As a Chicano, I feel pride associated with the Aztec moniker. But as an ally for native americans, I don't feel the human representation is important to SDSU's identity and has the potential to be offensive.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec

As a SDSU grad (1993), I would rather we adopt the duck-billed platypus as a mascot than any Native American mascot. thanks!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY - Offensive FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriation FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Representation !

As a traditional indigenous Aztec dancer, I find the human representation of the Aztec offensive as it reflects cultural misappropriation. We make our regalia with our own hands and it has a specific traditional significance. I am severely offended. We are also receiving negative comments nationwide; we are one of the few schools left with an indigenous mascot. Thank you

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY - Offensive FACULTY - Forward Thinking FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

As always, if the people that identify with an ethnicity closest to Aztec do not want to be a mascot - then there is your answer.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - ConsiderationsFACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY - Offensive FACULTY - Forward Thinking FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Other Symbols

As it stands now, SDSU is the definition of hypocrisy. The mission statement asserts we are â€œcommitted to furthering social justiceâ€ and â€œshall cultivate a campus climate that promotes human dignity.â€ Having a mascot that is a barbaric caricature of a diverse society of people is dehumanizing and far from achieving either of those goals.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF - Education FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations

As much as I appreciate being asked for input, this issue is much more complicated than taking a yes/no vote. With appropriate education, people may view the issues in their complexities and likely change their minds. Please don't consider this the last word. Thank you.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF - ConsiderationsFACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes !

Aztecs have no relation to San Diego.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY - Forward Thinking FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF - Education FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

Conducting a survey from a sample group that most likely knows little to nothing about the histories behind the so-called "aztec" is irresponsible. Rather, the university should provide the community with the actual relevant histories, and not try to obscure the inconvenient truth: the "aztec" is rooted in ignorance and racism. It's time to retire this relic of 20th century racism.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriation FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

Culture is not a mascot. The Aztec should be retired.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY - Forward Thinking FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation

Could there be a more appropriate human representation of Aztec culture instead?

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriation FACULTY/STAFF - Representation FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

Continued use of the Aztec branding is cultural appropriation, plain and simple. We wouldn't be ok with a team called the SDSU Japanese and a Shinto warrior mascot would we? It denigrates ones ethnicity to be used for branding. People are not mascots.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - Representation FACULTY/STAFF- Other Symbols

Find another mascot thatâ€™s not a human. A jaguar or panther. Keep Aztecs, but take away the blatant racist cisgender mate white thin fit human representation

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriation

how can SDSU claim Aztec identity without any credible connection to the culture and tradition of the Aztec nation?

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY - Forward Thinking FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes

Honestly, this ongoing debate detracts from the important work we are all trying to do at SDSU. It doesn't matter which side of the issue anyone is on. Let this be laid to rest so that we can move forward. And honestly, it is so retrograde to use HUMANS as mascots. It's 2018.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Education FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - RepresentationFACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriation FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes

Here we go again! I was on the task force convened by President Weber some years ago. The Aztecs (or Mexica) were the dominant group in what becme Mexico at the time of the Spanish conquest. their center of power coincided with the center of Mexico today. Their language was

and is Nahuatl and is still spoken by many. They have no historic ties to San Diego. How about no more demeaning of Native Am

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY - Forward Thinking

How would one feel if a sports team from another culture (hypothetically) utilizes a negative stereotypical cartoon portrayal "Americans soldiers"? If people feel offended because players don't stand for the National Anthem, and consider this a lack of respect, how can one, disrespect another culture by portraying them with a negative stereotypical cartoon figure that mocks another culture?

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation

Human representation abstracted in a graphic is acceptable, Monty Montezuma in costume at football games is inappropriate

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY - Offensive FACULTY - Forward Thinking FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

Human representation and barbaric imagery must go. For heaven's sake, the CLEVELAND INDIANS have retired their native logo. We are way behind the times here...

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

Humans should never be sports mascots

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

I agree strongly with ending the use of a human "aztec warrior" - especially as currently employed as half dressed and "savage." I do not agree with the second half of the Senate's resolution #1, as the use of historic weapons does not necessarily connote barbarity - for example

when deployed by "Spartans" or "Trojans" or "Knights," etc... Too few characters to respond appropriately :(

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - ConsiderationsFACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - Representation FACULTY/STAFF- Other Symbols

I agree that the human representative should be retired, but not the weaponry. The Aztecs culture be better celebrated. Besides ripping a beating heart out of a chest for human sacrifice, their art, engineering, government, language, education system, food, sport, medicine, etc. are all ingenious parts of their society that should be better celebrated. We should install a Ullamaliztli court.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec

I am ok with retiring the human representation of the Aztec Warrior if there are people truly offended by it but I strongly believe we should keep the Aztec moniker.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Representation

I am so pleased that President Roush is taking this matter seriously. If any among our SDSU community are hurt or offended my the moniker or the image we should change it. Period. We are in institution of learning and if any among us feels unwelcome or belittled, it hurts all of us.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - Representation FACULTY/STAFF- Other Symbols FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation

I believe that it is taking the high road socially for our community to honor the perspectives of Native American/indigenous people to remove all elements that potentially stereotype explicitly or implicitly. It is most definitely a move in the right direction to remove spears, etc. -- those artifact that associate indigenous people as violent. I do believe we should keep the "Aztecs" moniker.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec

I can see the inappropriateness of a human representation of the Aztecs, although they are actually an ancient race. However, I strongly think we should maintain the name Aztecs. Indians and Braves (Redskins is for sure) could be considered insulting to some but Spartans, Vikings, and indeed Aztecs are not identified with by living persons.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec

I have been an "Aztec" since 1966, but it is time to let go of our demeaning names and symbols

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec

I never saw how SDSU is connected to the Aztec empire. I would prefer something related to our unique region.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec

It should not be up to the dominant group (non-latinos) to decide the appropriateness of the mascot. If members of the latino/Aztec comm. say it's offensive its only our place to right the wrong, not debate if it is right or wrong. Collectively we cannot continue to act in discriminatory and offensive ways when we know better. How much longer do they have to endure the lack of respect by SDSU

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec

It is time for SDSU to give up the racist representation of a peoples. A group of indigenous people is not an appropriate "mascot."

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY - Offensive

It is impossible to separate the Aztec identity from the history of genocide. I am appalled that SDSU would use the identity for entertainment purposes and thereby trivialize what happened to native Americans when this land was being colonized by Europeans

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec

It is far past time for SDSU to retire this mascot. The mascot reinforces stereotypes and biases against Native people among numerous related issues. Other institutions have retired their racist and outdated mascots and we should follow their lead.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY - Offensive

It is disrespectful to reduce the Aztec nation to Sport Mascot terms (as you would an animal like a bull or a mustang). Just look at the racist cartoon character that is the mascot for the Cleveland Indians...

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec

It is academically inaccurate, racist, and disrespectful and affects the outreach and retention of native students.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec

It is absurd and shameful that we are putting such an issue of minority rights to a campus "vote/survey." It is equally shameful that SDSU is willing to continue to be on the wrong side of history

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec

It does seem rather culturally insensitive and the Aztec nation has nothing to do with San Diego

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec

Indigenous peoples are not mascots for institutional use. They are peoples and societies deserving of respect, not to be paraded around. How does having the Aztec moniker specifically help regional indigenous peoples?

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec

In this age of "political correctness" we might as well give up the whole Aztec moniker. Otherwise this issue will just keep going on and on

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec

I'm encouraged that the administration is considering ending the use of this deeply offensive racism and cultural appropriation.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec

If this was an African American there would be not question. Why is there hesitation with Native American symbols and characterizations?

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec

I strongly believe that SDSU should discontinue all usage of the Aztec mascot out of respect for the many First Nation peoples devastated by the arrival of Europeans, as well as the continued discrimination and dehumanization faced by their descendants, including both Native American and Latine individuals, in this country

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec

I strongly believe that there is no place at a University for the use of human mascots (and the stereotypes and embedded history that they carry). I am also concerned that a task force may not be balanced in terms of its make-up; further concern that task force not operate in secret. Transparency matters.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec

I teach a class on colonial Mexico and I have a Ph.D. in Latin American history. We do not "honor" the Aztecs by perpetrating what amounts to identity theft or by disassociating this debate from the issue of contemporary racism against Native Americans here or in Mexico. We are an institution of higher learning. The Aztec moniker is a symbol of racist ideology. We don't need it.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec

I think continued use of the mascot makes SDSU look out of date, as more forward-looking institutions are phasing out this type of cultural use

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec

I think groups who are sensitive to this culture and it's identity as well as experts in the culture should be consulted before advancing any further ideas about sticking with an "Aztec" identity. Perhaps an animal symbol might be useful. Otherwise, drop it completely and start over

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF- Other Symbols FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

I'd be interested in a non-human mascot

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF CODES STUDENT-Pride STUDENT- Appropriate/Respectful FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec

I am student athlete at this school and nothing makes me more proud then be able to represent the San Diego State Aztecs. I take pride in our mascot of the Aztecs and something I honor deeply.

FACULTY AND STAFF – APPROPRIATION

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriation

Plan A: No more exploitation of Native American identity.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriation

SDSU has the opportunity to be a leading voice in social justice by standing firmly against appropriating conquered cultures.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriation

SDSU is behind the times and needs to catch up to other universitys and professional level teams that have rid themselves of misappropriated use of cultural identities.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriation

The appropriation of Indigenous culture on this campus is not dissimilar to the presence of Confederate statues on other campuses, or of buildings named after slaveholders or white supremacists, all of which create a hostile learning environment.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriation

Thank you for exploring the inadvertently racist connotations of a school mascot as a parody of Native american culture.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriation

The Aztec mascot and moniker should be retired in favor of one that is more culturally mindful. Despite the history of the mascot and name, the ancestors of Aztecs, primarily chicano/chicana populations, continue to struggle in higher education achievement, pay, and resources. Until we are able to serve them appropriately, the Aztecs should be retired.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriation

The entire adoption of the Aztecs and like names (Zura, Tenochca, etc.) was one of convenience and image, both of which are unfortuante reasons to tie oneself to a culture and people who were far removed from San Diego and the local indigenous culture of Southern California.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriation FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

A culture is not a mascot. Thank you for finally moving to change this!

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY- Sports FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY - Forward Thinking FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriation FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) ! FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

Although I agree that the university should move away from a human representation of the Aztec mascot because of cultural misappropriation, I do not agree that the use of spears or weapons should be discontinued specifically for SDSU Athletics. The Aztecs were a warrior culture up to the time of the Spanish conquest and a "warrior" identity is appropriate for the competitive nature of athletics

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriation FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - Representation FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

As a Chicano, I feel pride associated with the Aztec moniker. But as an ally for native americans, I don't feel the human representation is important to SDSU's identity and has the potential to be offensive.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY - Offensive FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriation

FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations
FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Representation !

As a traditional indigenous Aztec dancer, I find the human representation of the Aztec offensive as it reflects cultural misappropriation. We make our regalia with our own hands and it has a specific traditional significance. I am severely offended. We are also receiving negative comments nationwide; we are one of the few schools left with an indigenous mascot. Thank you

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriation FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

Culture is not a mascot. The Aztec should be retired.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriation
FACULTY/STAFF - Representation FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

Continued use of the Aztec branding is cultural appropriation, plain and simple. We wouldn't be ok with a team called the SDSU Japanese and a Shinto warrior mascot would we? It denigrates ones ethnicity to be used for branding. People are not mascots.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriation

how can SDSU claim Aztec identity without any credible connection to the culture and tradition of the Aztec nation?

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Education FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - RepresentationFACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriation FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes

Here we go again! I was on the task force convened by President Weber some years ago. The Aztecs (or Mexica) were the dominant group in what become Mexico at the time of the Spanish conquest. their center of power coincided with the center of Mexico today. Their language was and is Nahuatl and is still spoken by many. They have no historic ties to San Diego. How about no more demeaning of Native American

FACULTY AND STAFF – DISLIKE AZTEC

Codes Applied: FACULTY- Dislike Aztecs

My only disagreement with using Aztec and Montezuma is that they were losers. Montezuma was stoned to death by his own people. The Aztecs were invaders of others territory.

Codes Applied: FACULTY- Dislike Aztecs

SDSU should completely disengage from any reference to the Aztecs. Though I agree with Resolution 2 creating the task force I totally disagree with creating an education component in relation to Aztec identity. As an institution we should have nothing to do with Aztecs

Codes Applied: FACULTY- Dislike Aztecs

The Aztecs practiced human sacrifice. That is reason enough to ditch this identity.

FACULTY AND STAFF – FORWARD THINKING

Codes Applied: FACULTY - Forward Thinking

Keeping the mascot will put the university on the wrong side of history. It is clear which way the wind is blowing, retire the mascot and put an end to this blemish on our record.

Codes Applied: FACULTY - Forward Thinking

Leadership starts here for demonstrating a mascot is not what defines SDSU. We are an institution of higher education that supports tolerance and respect. We should lead by example.

Codes Applied: FACULTY - Forward Thinking

Let SDSU be a role model for all sports franchises that hold on to out of date and offensive monikers and icons, by making the change.

Codes Applied: FACULTY - Forward Thinking

Let's be a leader in the community as San Diego State University has always done. We can do this by retiring the use of the Aztec. Native peoples have been historically underrepresented since the beginning of history. It doesn't matter if the minority opinion is that the Aztec mascot should be retired; it is a minority opinion because there are so few natives left today. Thank you for considering.

Codes Applied: FACULTY - Forward Thinking

Let's move on into the 21 Century already

Codes Applied: FACULTY - Forward Thinking

Let's start fresh.

Codes Applied: FACULTY - Forward Thinking

Long overdue!

Codes Applied: FACULTY - Forward Thinking

Look around. It's a new era. It's time to change.

Codes Applied: FACULTY - Forward Thinking

Representation as an Aztec is not culturally sensitive. We must follow suit with the likes of the other college teams changing with the times

Codes Applied: FACULTY - Forward Thinking

SDSU as a leading institution with proud alumni should take heed and be exemplary in its leadership by rewriting its History when it comes to our philanthropic mission. A compromise is critical when sensitivities are at stake (remove reminders of ancestral abuse and violence suffered as it has affected indigenous cultures) therefore restoration is vital of a Nations honor, dignity and identity.

Codes Applied: FACULTY - Forward Thinking

SDSU continues to use Native American images and characters only because of a sleight of hand, a trick: No Aztecs in the US. It's time to join the rest of the country and up our mascot. Other schools have done it, there is no reason why we can't as well.

Codes Applied: FACULTY - Forward Thinking

SDSU has the opportunity to be a leading voice in social justice by standing firmly against appropriating conquered cultures.

Codes Applied: FACULTY - Forward Thinking

. Changing the mascot will show the community that SDSU values cultural diversity, and listens to the voices of marginalized communities who have also expeienced appropriation of their cultures.

Codes Applied: FACULTY - Forward Thinking

SDSU values diversity and being a forward looking creative institution. Racial stereotypes do not represent what SDSU stands for.

Codes Applied: FACULTY - Forward Thinking

Thank you for addressing this difficult issue. I do feel that the school has moved far beyond the moniker and it is time to move forward.

Codes Applied: FACULTY - Forward Thinking

Thank you for being involved in this important discussion. As an alumni and faculty member I STRONGLY urge this committee to recommend that we retire the mascot and moniker. If leadership starts here, why are we so far behind other universities and professional sports teams? Sometimes being a leader means making a decision that isnâ€™t popular.

Codes Applied: FACULTY - Forward Thinking

Thank you for creating this survey and undertaking this challenging task. It's long overdue, and I look forward to SDSU finding a wonderful new mascot and moniker.

Codes Applied: FACULTY - Forward Thinking

Thank you for tackling this difficult and contentious issue! It's clear that many alums hate the idea of changing the mascot but popular opinion does not determine whether something is morally right or wrong.

Codes Applied: FACULTY - Forward Thinking

The Aztec moniker is incredibly problematic, and despite its history, now is time for the university to move forward beyond this anachronistic moniker.

Codes Applied: FACULTY - Forward Thinking

The Aztec name, logo, mascot, and identity should be retired and replaced by an accurate and true representation of San Diego. Preferably a non-human/non-cultural symbol such as a native animal that can be embraced by all.

Codes Applied: FACULTY - Forward Thinking

This is a ripe opportunity to remedy that error and come up with a moniker and mascot that reflects better on who we are.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY- Sports
FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY - Forward Thinking
FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriation FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation
FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)
! FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

Although I agree that the university should move away from a human representation of the Aztec mascot because of cultural misappropriation, I do not agree that the use of spears or weapons should be discontinued specifically for SDSU Athletics. The Aztecs were a warrior culture up to the time of the Spanish conquest and a "warrior" identity is appropriate for the competitive nature of athletics

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY - Forward Thinking FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF - Representation
FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

Although I personally Donâ€™t have any objection, we need to be sensitive to all of the ethnicities. Perhaps a more suitable representation can be considered .

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY - Offensive FACULTY - Forward Thinking
FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

As always, if the people that identify with an ethnicity closest to Aztec do not want to be a mascot - then there is your answer.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - ConsiderationsFACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY - Offensive
FACULTY - Forward Thinking FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation
FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot
FACULTY/STAFF- Other Symbols

As it stands now, SDSU is the definition of hypocrisy. The mission statement asserts we are â€œcommitted to furthering social justiceâ€ and â€œshall cultivate a campus climate that promotes human dignity.â€ Having a mascot that is a barbaric caricature of a diverse society of people is dehumanizing and far from achieving either of those goals.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Honoring FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Positive Tone FACULTY/STAFF - Education FACULTY - Forward Thinking !

As part of the Mexican culture, I believe it is an honor when there is tribute to and an attempt to preserve the Aztec culture. Having an Aztec Warrior as a University representation prompts our University community to engage in learning more about this heritage, and the University is in the right path to illicit conversations that create a more culturally competent community.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY - Forward Thinking FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF - Education FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

Conducting a survey from a sample group that most likely knows little to nothing about the histories behind the so-called "aztec" is irresponsible. Rather, the university should provide the community with the actual relevant histories, and not try to obscure the inconvenient truth: the "aztec" is rooted in ignorance and racism. It's time to retire this relic of 20th century racism.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY - Forward Thinking FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation

Could there be a more appropriate human representation of Aztec culture instead?

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY - Forward Thinking FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes

Honestly, this ongoing debate detracts from the important work we are all trying to do at SDSU. It doesn't matter which side of the issue anyone is on. Let this be laid to rest so that we can move forward. And honestly, it is so retrograde to use HUMANS as mascots. It's 2018.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY - Forward Thinking

How would one feel if a sports team from another culture (hypothetically) utilizes a negative stereotypical cartoon portrayal "Americans soldiers"? If people feel offended because players don't stand for the National Anthem, and consider this a lack of respect, how can one, disrespect another culture by portraying them with a negative stereotypical cartoon figure that mocks another culture?

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY - Offensive FACULTY - Forward Thinking FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

Human representation and barbaric imagery must go. For heaven's sake, the CLEVELAND INDIANS have retired their native logo. We are way behind the times here...

FACULTY AND STAFF – HUMAN REPRESENTATION

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation

. You dehumanize people when you make cartoons of them.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation

Mascots that tie a school to a concept (warrior, the Jazz, etc.) or to a created symbold identifyer (named anthropomorphic creations) or to an animal)The terrimoins, the Banana Slugs) are pretty much uncrontroversial. Using real peoples, real identities to connote the strenght of a institution/sport team oven devolve into disrespectful terriotory. We should be better than that.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation

People are proud to stand behind the Aztec name but have zero knowledge of the actual Aztec people. It's time to get rid of the racist mascot.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation

People who hold the heritage and identity related to the Aztec moniker and it's history may perceive that this school sees them as violent. The human representation makes is seem/feel more concrete of a belief that our institution possesses as well. We should hold a duty to create a

welcoming environment for all students to feel safe at our school. If students feel unsafe, we need to investigate.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation

Perhaps the Aztec could be a mythical, brave and intelligent looking bird.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation

Please let us no longer use human beings as mascots. I speak as an alum and faculty member.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation

Please retire this school mascot as soon as possible. It's offensive beyond words. . . .

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation

San Diego State needs to get up to speed with the rest of the nation that is moving away from using a people as their mascot. I strongly agree with getting rid of the mascot and I am also an alumni and I feel our perspective is not being covered by the media and other outlets.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation

At MINIMUM, the deeply problematic human representation should be retired with immediate effect, as the most egregious element of the misappropriation of the Aztec moniker.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation

Regarding resolution 2, I disgaree that there should be any form of Aztec representation used at all, but agree that the task force should educate students and community about aztec culture and why this use is wrong and needs to stop.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)

I don't care that much about the human representation. Aztecs needs to stay.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF- Other Symbols

I don't feel Mascots should be human or based in any culture. Animals, Weather, Rocks, Plants are all fine.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF - RepresentationFACULTY/STAFF- Other Symbols FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

It's racist. It promotes a stereotype. It's offensive. I'd love love keep the SD logo w/ the spear and just be the SDSU Warriors

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Other Symbols FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

A people should not be a mascot. Pick an animal or a plant.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF- Other Symbols FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

Adopt an animal important to the Aztec culture, like the Jaguar. You could keep aspects of the SDSU "Aztec" culture, like the buildings names, etc. You could even stylize the Jaguar so it looked "Aztec." We need to just move on from our Generic Aztec Warrior mascot.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY - Offensive FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - Education FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

Agree with retiring the human representation but keep the usage of spears or weapons. I also agree with creating a class on Aztec identity.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY- Sports
FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY - Forward Thinking
FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriation FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation
FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier)
! FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

Although I agree that the university should move away from a human representation of the Aztec mascot because of cultural misappropriation, I do not agree that the use of spears or weapons should be discontinued specifically for SDSU Athletics. The Aztecs were a warrior culture up to

the time of the Spanish conquest and a "warrior" identity is appropriate for the competitive nature of athletics

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriation FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - Representation FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

As a Chicano, I feel pride associated with the Aztec moniker. But as an ally for native americans, I don't feel the human representation is important to SDSU's identity and has the potential to be offensive.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY - Offensive FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriation FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Representation !

As a traditional indigenous Aztec dancer, I find the human representation of the Aztec offensive as it reflects cultural misappropriation. We make our regalia with our own hands and it has a specific traditional significance. I am severely offended. We are also receiving negative comments nationwide; we are one of the few schools left with an indigenous mascot. Thank you

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY - Offensive FACULTY - Forward Thinking FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

As always, if the people that identify with an ethnicity closest to Aztec do not want to be a mascot - then there is your answer.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - ConsiderationsFACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY - Offensive FACULTY - Forward Thinking FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Other Symbols

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Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY - Forward Thinking FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation

Could there be a more appropriate human representation of Aztec culture instead?

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - Representation FACULTY/STAFF- Other Symbols

Find another mascot thatâ€™s not a human. A jaguar or panther. Keep Aztecs, but take away the blatant racist cisgender mate white thin fit human representation

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - For the Moniker/Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - ConsiderationsFACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation

Has anyone asked the Native American students, faculty what they think? At least the human representation of an Aztec Warrior is not some cheesy mascot. I think this society is going overboard on being too "politically correct".

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY - Forward Thinking FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes

Honestly, this ongoing debate detracts from the important work we are all trying to do at SDSU. It doesn't matter which side of the issue anyone is on. Let this be laid to rest so that we can move forward. And honestly, it is so retrograde to use HUMANS as mascots. It's 2018.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Education FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - RepresentationFACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriation FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes

Here we go again! I was on the task force convened by President Weber some years ago. The Aztecs (or Mexica) were the dominant group in what becme Mexico at the time of the Spanish conquest. their center of power coincided with the center of Mexico today. Their language was

and is Nahuatl and is still spoken by many. They have no historic ties to San Diego. How about no more demeaning of Native Am

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation

Human representation abstracted in a graphic is acceptable, Monty Montezuma in costume at football games is inappropriate

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY - Offensive FACULTY - Forward Thinking FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

Human representation and barbaric imagery must go. For heaven's sake, the CLEVELAND INDIANS have retired their native logo. We are way behind the times here...

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

Humans should never be sports mascots

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Mascot

I agree strongly with ending the use of a human "aztec warrior" - especially as currently employed as half dressed and "savage." I do not agree with the second half of the Senate's resolution #1, as the use of historic weapons does not necessarily connote barbarity - for example when deployed by "Spartans" or "Trojans" or "Knights," etc... Too few characters to respond appropriately :(

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - ConsiderationsFACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - Representation FACULTY/STAFF- Other Symbols

I agree that the human representative should be retired, but not the weaponry. The Aztecs culture be better celebrated. Besides ripping a beating heart out of a chest for human sacrifice, their art, engineering, government, language, education system, food, sport, medicine, etc. are all ingenious parts of their society that should be better celebrated. We should install a Ullamaliztli court.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - Representation FACULTY/STAFF- Other Symbols FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation

I believe that it is taking the high road socially for our community to honor the perspectives of Native American/indigenous people to remove all elements that potentially stereotype explicitly or implicitly. It is most definitely a move in the right direction to remove spears, etc. -- those artifact that associate indigenous people as violent. I do believe we should keep the "Aztecs" moniker.

FACULTY AND STAFF – OFFENSIVE

Codes Applied: FACULTY - Offensive FACULTY/STAFF - Representation

Let's go back to our former mascot--the Wampus Cats. If native and/or Hispanic students (whether a small or large group) are offended by the mascot, then why not change it to be more inclusive? That is part of the University's mission.

Codes Applied: FACULTY - Offensive

Several studies have been published that link mascots to the perpetuation of negative stereotypes and the continuity of the Aztec obscures real Native Americans (particularly Kumeyaay) and tribal nations of California. It also creates an unwelcoming environment for Native American faculty and students.

Codes Applied: FACULTY - Offensive

Simple solution: organize a cluster hire of twelve professors of all ranks who are experts on Meso America, Mexico, etc--were SDSU to be a center of true research of the pre-contact Americas, as it once was, it would make sense for us to name ourselves this way. But the skull-headress crap has to go. Utterly ridiculous in the 21st century.

Codes Applied: FACULTY - Offensive

Thank you for tackling this difficult and contentious issue! It's clear that many alums hate the idea of changing the mascot but popular opinion does not determine whether something is morally right or wrong.

Codes Applied: FACULTY - Offensive

The Aztec moniker, mascot and other names and symbols will remain offensive obstacles to SDSU's reputation until they are all replaced.

Codes Applied: FACULTY - Offensive FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

It's time to retire using American Indians as a mascot, that is not appropriate in this day and age, and does not represent diversity and tolerance and respect of all people, as SDSU should want to do.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY - Offensive

It's the 21st Century. The appropriation of the Aztec civilization as SDSU's moniker is historically inaccurate and morally inappropriate.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY - Offensive FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY/STAFF- Keep Name (Monkier) FACULTY/STAFF - Education FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

Agree with retiring the human representation but keep the usage of spears or weapons. I also agree with creating a class on Aztec identity.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY - Offensive FACULTY/STAFF- Appropriation FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot FACULTY/STAFF - Representation !

As a traditional indigenous Aztec dancer, I find the human representation of the Aztec offensive as it reflects cultural misappropriation. We make our regalia with our own hands and it has a specific traditional significance. I am severely offended. We are also receiving negative comments nationwide; we are one of the few schools left with an indigenous mascot. Thank you

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY - Offensive FACULTY - Forward Thinking FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

As always, if the people that identify with an ethnicity closest to Aztec do not want to be a mascot - then there is your answer.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - ConsiderationsFACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY - Offensive FACULTY - Forward Thinking FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot FACULTY/STAFF- Other Symbols

As it stands now, SDSU is the definition of hypocrisy. The mission statement asserts we are â€œcommitted to furthering social justiceâ€ and â€œshall cultivate a campus climate that promotes human dignity.â€ Having a mascot that is a barbaric caricature of a diverse society of people is dehumanizing and far from achieving either of those goals.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Considerations FACULTY/STAFF - Exemplar Quotes FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY - Offensive FACULTY - Forward Thinking FACULTY/STAFF- Human Representation FACULTY/STAFF - Recommendations FACULTY/STAFF- Remove Mascot

Human representation and barbaric imagery must go. For heaven's sake, the CLEVELAND INDIANS have retired their native logo. We are way behind the times here...

Codes Applied: FACULTY - Offensive

It is time for all schools and professional athletic clubs to retire the use of culturally-insensitive depictions of other nations and peoples.

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY - Offensive

It is impossible to separate the Aztec identity from the history of genocide. I am appalled that SDSU would use the identity for entertainment purposes and thereby trivialize what happened to native Americans when this land was being colonized by Europeans

Codes Applied: FACULTY/STAFF - Against the Moniker/Aztec FACULTY - Offensive

It is disrespectful to reduce the Aztec nation to Sport Mascot terms (as you would an animal like a bull or a mustang). Just look at the racist cartoon character that is the mascot for the Cleveland Indians...

Aztec Warrior Dos:

- Look and act regal and respectful
- Display proper decorum
- Blow the conch shell at appropriate times
- Help lead SDSU cheers
- Take photos and shake hands with Aztec fans who want to meet and greet – no silly poses or facial expressions for photos
- Participate in pushups after Aztec scores at football games
- Participate in media interviews related to the Aztec Warrior only after approved by the Athletics Department (Specifically, by Athletics Marketing supervisor)

Aztec Warrior DON'Ts:

- Dance
- Fight/spar with competing mascots, teams, fans, etc.
- Clown around/act silly
- Interact with competing mascots, other than shaking hands and greeting as would be done with fans
- Refer to self as "mascot"
- Wear Aztec Warrior uniform at any non SDSU-sanctioned events
- Maintain any social media accounts as the Aztec Warrior

A Report of the Task Force on Aztec Identity to San Diego State University President Stephen L. Weber

2 May 2001

Conveyance Letter

May 2, 2001

President Stephen L. Weber
San Diego State University
5500 Campanile Drive
San Diego, CA 92182

Dear President Weber:

Attached is the report from the Aztec Identity Task Force. In the report you will find an executive summary, situation analysis and background, a section on what we learned and the process we went through, a detailed recommendations section and an appendix with additional information.

The Task Force members worked extremely hard in this effort, and we would like to thank each of them for their dedication and commitment to the process and their hours of homework. We would also like to thank all of the people both from the United States and from Mexico who shared their expertise and views with our group.

While they had no direct input into the work of the Task Force, we would like to acknowledge the Associated Students, the Alumni Association and the University Senate for their involvement in this issue.

We also thank you for your support throughout this process, especially the efforts put in by Patti Swinford on your staff. She was invaluable to us in coordinating our meetings and the communications between those meetings.

We would also like to thank our facilitator, Steve Alexander, who did a great job of keeping our meetings on track and driving us to meet our objectives.

You may also receive communications from several Task Force members regarding some of the additional information we discovered during our process.

In addition to the objectives you laid out for our group, we chose to add a few items, as follows:

To become familiar with the views of people from Mexico on this issue;

To understand and define the use of mascots and their role in a university setting, and at SDSU; and,

To understand and define the entertainment and marketing role/value of mascots in a university setting, and at SDSU.

Achieving these objectives allowed some additional insight into the issue.

Regarding process, it was the decision of our group from the beginning to keep our meetings closed so that we could have open and honest deliberations about the issue. That decision was the right one.

We also wanted to clarify where the Task Force sees our recommendations fitting in the whole context of resolution of this issue. Mark R. Connolly's article *What's In a Name? A Historical Look at Native American-Related Nicknames and Symbols at Three U.S. Universities* outlines a recommended process:

Acknowledge the problem;
Gather history and input from a range of stakeholders;
Research the evidence;
Announce dissociation from what is seen as offensive;
Facilitate dispassionate and logical deliberation;
Distribute historically significant and sound data and information;
Create awareness and understanding of stereotypical nature of symbols;
Change these symbols and representations (if necessary and appropriate);
Use the outcomes and opportunities to teach, learn and grow as a community.

We feel that items 1 through 4 were conducted prior to the creation of our Task Force. We accomplished item 5, and began the gathering of information for item 6. In our view, items 7 through 9 are what remain to be accomplished. We also offer any support we, as tri-chairs, can give you in accomplishing these steps. Many other members of the Task Force are also willing to participate further.

We also understand that the logo and mascot of San Diego State University have evolved over time and will continue to do so.

We did not operate in isolation on this issue, and we do understand that the topic we have been discussing has been getting a great deal of national attention, with some groups voting to eliminate any references to indigenous peoples related to sports and/or universities. However, in attempting to understand this issue, we must factor in the views about this issue from an international perspective. The voices of people from Mexico have had a profound influence on our report, and we strongly urge that any of these recommendations that are acted upon include continued representation of people from Mexico.

This report reflects the collaborative effort of the Task Force. However, there were alternative viewpoints in areas where we could not all agree. They are listed in the report as such, and the rationale to support them has been included in the appendix.

We do realize that not everyone will agree with the recommendations we are making and understand that some will criticize our work. In our view, that is to be expected as part of a healthy community dialogue. As we have learned through this process, there are many differing views on how SDSU should represent and celebrate Aztec culture and history, and some believe that we should not do so at all. We do feel that SDSU has a unique opportunity to celebrate the Aztec culture in a uniquely international setting.

Thank you for the opportunity to work on this important issue with such an enthusiastic, open-minded and dedicated group of individuals.

Sincerely,

Tom Davies, Ph.D.
Faculty Tri-chair

Angel Salazar
Student Tri-chair

Bill Trumpfheller
Alumni Tri-chair

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I. Executive Summary

A. Introduction

The information and recommendations in this report were arrived at after a great deal of information gathering and deliberations among all 20 members of the SDSU Aztec Identity Task Force.

While not everyone on the Task Force saw the issue in the same light in the early stages of our meetings, through a thorough process of intense learning, dialog and understanding, general consensus was achieved on the items reported here. In areas where we did not achieve total consensus, opinions that differ from the consensus are presented as "alternative viewpoints" in this report.

The Aztecs were a proud people and a complex society that built one of the great cultures in world history. The Task Force agreed with President Weber that not only is it acceptable that SDSU maintain its affiliation with Aztec culture and history and with Montezuma, one of their kings, it is highly appropriate that we do so for a variety of reasons.

Aztec culture was very intricate, and any symbols, activities, and other efforts to celebrate that culture and their history must be done thoughtfully and carefully.

B. Background and Situation Analysis

Both Mexican-Americans and the people of Mexico, being direct descendents of Aztecs and Spaniards, have a personal stake in the Aztec mascot in that questions of its portrayal are issues of pride and self-identity. Native Americans also have a vested interest in the Aztec mascot in that the Aztecs were an indigenous people and therefore some feel a kinship exists between them. Questions of the mascot are also important for Native Americans in that some feel that all mascots pertaining to any indigenous peoples should be eliminated altogether. The Mexica-Aztec were a very advanced Mesoamerican culture who, through the technological innovation and military prowess, were able to establish one of the most powerful empires of the pre-Columbian era.

Discontent with the current mascot led the Native American Student Alliance (NASA) to demand that SDSU eliminate the current mascot through a resolution passed by the Associated Students council. The Associated Students also passed a resolution calling for a campus-wide referendum in which record numbers of students turned out to vote in favor of retaining the current Aztec mascot and logos. The University Senate asked that President Weber reexamine the current mascot and logos, and as a result a taskforce of 20 people (representing alumni, students, faculty, and including presidential appointees) was convened to reexamine the issue of the Aztec logos and mascot.

President Weber appointed five members to the taskforce with Al Araiza, president of Los Aztecas Alumni, acting as the chair of this group (at the request of the Task Force). Pat Huckle, chair of the University Senate, along with the University Senate Executive Committee, selected Professor Tom Davies, chair of the Latin American Studies department, as chair of the group of five faculty members representing the University Senate. Bill Trumpfheller, president of the SDSU Alumni Association, appointed five alumni members to represent the Alumni Association and also served as the chair of

this group. After a lengthy selection process in which all interested student groups were asked to forward prospective candidates, Jason Rollingson, president of the Associated Students of San Diego State University, selected five students to represent the Associated Students of San Diego State University with Angel Salazar, president of the College of Sciences Student Council, acting as chair. Per agreement with the president of the Associated Students and at the request of the five student members of the Taskforce, Professor Maria Butler from the Chicano / Chicana Studies department was selected as advisor to the student group.

C. Objectives of the Task Force

President Weber provided the following four objectives to the Task Force:

1. To become familiar with Aztec culture and history as well as Native American and Mexican-American sensitivities;
2. To identify any historically or culturally inappropriate aspects that currently exist in our [SDSU] logo representations and recommend appropriate changes;
3. To identify any historically or culturally inappropriate aspects that currently exist in our portrayal of "Monty" Montezuma as a symbol [mascot] and recommend appropriate changes;
4. To establish criteria for how SDSU will represent our affiliation with Aztec culture in all future logo representations and mascot portrayals.

For purposes of clarifying and achieving the above objectives, the Task Force added the following objectives:

5. To become familiar with the views of people from Mexico on this issue;
6. To understand and define the use of mascots and their role in a university setting and at SDSU;
7. To understand and define the entertainment and marketing role / value of mascots in a university setting and at SDSU.

D. Guiding Principle of the Task Force

Early on in our process we decided, as a group, to adopt the following guiding principle to drive our approach to the issue at hand:

> "If there were no controversy, what would be the best way to represent Aztec culture as both a rich heritage of the region and as an integral and proud part of SDSU's history?"

E. Goal of the Task Force

Additionally, through its deliberations, the Task Force adopted this overriding goal:

> To celebrate, honor, respect and educate about the Aztecs and their culture in a way that demonstrates respect for the diversity of opinion and perspectives at the University and builds unity and spirit among the diverse sectors of the SDSU community.

F. What We Learned and Process & Methodology

Realizing that San Diego State University occupies a genuinely unique geographic position on the U.S.-Mexico border, the Task Force worked extremely hard for many hours. We read dozens of books and articles, watched videos, referenced many web sites on the Internet, and heard from a number of expert witnesses. This allowed us to render as informed an opinion as possible regarding the use of the Aztec name, as well as Aztec symbols for a mascot and on University logos.

The Task Force was formed using a leadership model of a chair selected from each group represented (students, faculty and alumni), with a fourth group appointed by President Weber. The Task Force made a decision to use an outside facilitator during its more than biweekly meetings. Decisions were made by consensus on all matters (i.e., no formal votes were taken), with alternative viewpoints developed separately and reflected in the final report.

G. Overview of Recommendations

Following are the Task Force recommendations, in summary. Greater detail is given in the Recommendations section of this report.

General Recommendations

- It is appropriate to use a variety of symbols from Aztec culture throughout the campus community, including human and animal as well as other symbols, as long as they are culturally appropriate and historically accurate.
- We support the report from the Aztec Education Task Force and recommend the University go even further in these efforts.
- SDSU should continue and strengthen its programs and activities to support indigenous peoples.
- With any symbol, human, or animal depiction used, the designers must understand all of the nuances, subtleties, history, spirituality, symbolism and other issues associated with that particular item.

Logo Recommendations

- We recommend that the University continue to use logos and symbols from the Aztec culture and develop new logos that accurately depict Aztec culture and history.
- It is appropriate to use Montezuma as a symbol of the University, and we recommend in doing so that it represent Montezuma II.
- Logos developed for use by athletic teams must show pride and strength in historically accurate ways as derived from Aztec culture.
- Consideration should be given to logos that would appeal across gender lines (perhaps even a separate logo for women's athletics).
- Logos (in at least some iterations) should be simple, clear and direct so that they don't always need interpretation.
- Design concepts and final designs should include the use of designers and related professionals from Mexico.

- The design process should include solicitation of broad community review for input on final design and implementation of those designs (including the views of people from Mexico).
- Additional colors (beyond the existing school colors of red and black) should be considered in design of logos to allow proper representation of Aztec culture.
- The University should conduct an inventory of all current and potential uses of its logos and ensure new designs are created that are appropriate for each use.
- Upon completion of new logos, very clear graphics standards and guidelines need to be developed as to how and where each logo is used. Very strict enforcement of these standards is critical to maintaining consistency and ensuring that all stay within the appropriate guidelines.
- SDSU should definitely continue its use of appropriately designed logos, based on the design elements listed below.

There was an alternate viewpoint that felt it was not appropriate to use human representations in the logo (see Appendix).

Mascot Recommendations

- It is appropriate to continue to use Montezuma as a mark / ambassador of the University, but not as a mascot. This can be done in a human form as long as it meets the other criteria we have recommended. We also recommend that the portrayal of Montezuma be referred to as Montezuma the Warrior (Montezuma II).
- Use Aztec dancers and other appropriate representations of Aztec culture to provide education, ceremony and entertainment in a variety of venues.
- Utilize a mascot, other than Montezuma, that is an appropriate figure from Aztec culture for the activity they are performing. The Task Force recommends that it is appropriate to use human mascots as long the considerations we presented earlier in this report have been followed.
- Exact implementation details should be done in consultation with significant input from experts in Aztec culture.
- The Task Force recommends that when reference is made to Montezuma, the full name of Montezuma be used.

There were two alternative viewpoints represented on the Task Force. The first felt it was inappropriate to use a human as either a mark / ambassador or as a mascot. The second felt it was inappropriate to use a human mascot, but that it was acceptable to use humans in other forms such as a mark / ambassador. A mark / ambassador is defined in the report. (See Appendix.)

There was an alternative viewpoint that supported the continued use of the nickname "Monty" (see Appendix).

Specific recommendations regarding a mark and mascot include:

- Any human mascot or mark must wear authentic and accurate attire as befitting of the individual he / she represents;
- Use of headdress, weapons (such as spears) and other parts of the mascot's or mark's regalia must also be representative of items that would actually have been used by the person(s) the mascot or mark is designed to depict;

- Dancing and other behavior displayed by the mascot or mark must also be fitting of the person(s) the mascot or mark is designed to represent.

H. Guidelines for Creating New Logos and Mascots

We recommend the following guidelines be applied in creating new logos and mascots that celebrate Aztec culture and history (in priority order):

1. They must be respectful of Aztec culture in all its complexities;
2. They must be authentic representations of Aztec history;
3. They should be unifying symbols (culturally, and with key audiences and interest groups).

There are also design elements that we recommend be avoided in logo designs. The following list is meant to be illustrative, but not exhaustive:

- Depictions of humans with red faces
- Depictions of deities or other symbols that have deep religious meaning
- Use of inaccurate clothing or headdress on any human depictions
- Use of logos representing humans on arena floors and floor mats, for example, and in other inappropriate places based on the importance of that which the logo is depicting

I. Summary and Acknowledgements

The following report outlines in more detail the charge of the Task Force, an overview of what we learned as a group, our detailed recommendations, as well as an appendix with much of the resource material we used throughout our process.

The Task Force wants to thank all of the presenters who shared their views on the issue, the University Library for providing access to invaluable resources, the President's office for its support, and Steve Alexander, our facilitator, for guiding us through the process.

AZTEC WARRIOR

CONCEPT

The Aztec Warrior mascot concept shown here is intended to be consistent with the guidelines established by the Aztec Identity Task Force in May 2001. Since that time, through conversations with student leaders, alumni leaders, athletics boosters and others, and input from scholars on Aztec civilization, the mascot concept has evolved into this currently proposed version. All pieces of the Aztec Warrior's clothing and equipment are based on items an Aztec warrior would have worn or used at some point in his service. Modifications have been made where necessary due to safety, unavailability of authentic materials, or to reflect modern standards of modesty.

Headdress

The headdress is based on those worn by the highest-ranking Aztec warriors and is meant to evoke a proud and strong warrior spirit. The bird design is based on the cara cara, with the color scheme based on the crested cara cara and adapted to reflect school colors. It will be made with real feathers from birds other than the cara cara, which is an endangered species.

Face Paint

Different codices of Aztec culture indicate warriors used iron pyrite powder to paint their faces in stripes or halves. The Aztec Warrior mascot will use nontoxic cosmetic-grade face paint for safety.

Cotton Armor

The Aztecs' quilted cotton armor garment, called *ichcahuipilli*, was a staple item for warriors, and at times was worn underneath intricately decorated outer garments. It was reported to be so effective at stopping arrows that the some Spanish soldiers took to wearing them under their breastplates. Different accounts and scholars indicate there were sleeveless versions and may have come in various colors, including red. Side lacings have been added to this version of the garment to make it easier to put on.

Hip Cloth

The Aztec Warrior's hip cloth is derived from a combination of separate garments Aztecs wore below the waist, including loincloths, hip cloths and garments we would describe today as kilts, with ends tied in front, back or both. This combination, featuring a secular end tie in the front, has been chosen to reflect modern modesty and wearer comfort. Several codices and other scholastic sources indicate hip cloths and kilts came in different colors and patterns. Black and red were chosen here to reflect school colors.

Arm Bands/Wrist Bands/Leg Bands

Different codices of Aztec culture show arm bands, wrist bands and leg bands were worn by warriors and rulers alike. The Aztec Warrior's bands are based on depictions of those worn by Nezahualcoyotl, ruler of Texcoco (1402-1472).

Copper Bells

The Aztec Warrior's leg bands feature copper bells. Various scholarly sources show the Aztecs smelted copper. Copper bells, or *cascabeles*, have been found throughout pre-Hispanic Mesoamerica. They were worn for different purposes, and sometimes were strung in rows to give sound to the wearer's movements.

Sandals

Open-toed sandals are commonly referenced in Aztec codices. These sources indicate they were worn by all ranks of warriors.

Shield

Some Aztec shields were used for ornamental purposes, others for battle. The Aztec Warrior's shield is based on the *otlachimalli*, which was made with hides and woven cane with double-cotton backing. Many different materials were available options for construction and decoration, ranging from cane and hide to beaten copper, bamboo and feathers. The red feather edge of the Aztec Warrior's shield is derived from a depiction of one used by Nezahualcoyotl, ruler of Texcoco (1402-1472). The leg guards that hung from the shield's lower edge were made from leather or feathers.

Thrusting Spear

The Aztecs' thrusting spear, or *tepoztopilli*, featured an obsidian or flint blade, with a cutting surface consisting of a row of sharpened stones. The Aztec Warrior's spear handle and blade are based on etchings of an Aztec spear that was preserved until the 19th century until it was destroyed in a European museum fire. The etchings are documented in *Aztec Warfare* by Ross Hassig (University of Olkahoma Press, 1988).

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California Faculty Association

California Faculty Association
Resolution to Eliminate Racialized Mascots and Those Mascots Associated With Modern Histories of Violent Oppression Against Constituent Groups in the California State University

WHEREAS, the California Faculty Association is a union that recognizes the importance of building our power through a commitment to social justice and inclusion; and

WHEREAS, at the "People's University," CFA is a union that represents faculty who serve the California State University (CSU), and who believe in empowering those who have been traditionally pushed to the margins of society by bringing their voices and perspectives to the fore; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 1097, from the Office of the Chancellor of the California State University system states: "The California State University (CSU) is committed to maintaining an inclusive community that values diversity and fosters tolerance and mutual respect, and further goes on to state that "The CSU strives to be free of all forms of Discrimination, including Harassment, because of a Protected Status..."; and

WHEREAS, more than 100 organizations across the nation have endorsed the discontinuation of Native American mascots, including: the National Congress of American Indians, the National Indian Education Association, the Society of Indian Psychologists, the Anti-Defamation League, the Commission on Human Rights, United States Civil Rights Commission, the American Psychological Association, the American Sociological Association, Asian Americans Advancing Justice, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), American Jewish Committee, Museum of Tolerance, National Education Association (NEA), California Teachers Association (CTA), University of California Student Association (UCSA); and

WHEREAS, since the 1990s, scholars have identified the historical and contemporary ramifications of racialized representations in sport[1]; and

WHEREAS, numerous schools and sports teams continue to use Indigenous names, symbols, and images as mascots, nicknames, logos, and or team names; and

WHEREAS, California State University, Long Beach, has worked to address their problematic mascot "Prospector Pete" with truth-telling, fostered healing, and collective unity with the local Indigenous peoples; and

WHEREAS, California State University, Channel Islands, has worked with the Chumash to create a culturally appropriate mascot; and

WHEREAS California State University, San Marcos, has proactively worked with the local Indigenous community on whose land they reside to establish a campus identity that is rooted in place; and

WHEREAS California State University, San Diego, is on Kumeyaay land and the Kumeyaay were not consulted to create a culturally appropriate mascot; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that California Faculty Association condemns the current California State University, San Diego, moniker The Aztecs and the human representation of an Aztec as the school mascot as well as the usage of spears or weapons that connote violent and barbaric representations of Indigenous cultures; and be it further

RESOLVED, that California Faculty Association condemns the current California State University, East Bay, moniker The Pioneers and the mascot "Pioneer Pete" as it white-washes a violent history of Indigenous genocide in California; and be it further

CFA
California Faculty Association

RESOLVED, that California Faculty Association condemns the current California State University, Long Beach, moniker The 49ers and the mascot "Prospector Pete" as it represents a genocidal history against Indigenous peoples in California; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the California Faculty Association condemns the continued use of racist stereotype images, logos and mascots in sports and institutions of education; and be it also

RESOLVED, that the California Faculty Association hereby opposes the use of racialized images, logos, names, and mascots associated with modern histories of violent oppression against constituent groups in the California State University system in sports for both commercial and educational purposes.

Adopted by the CFA Assembly
April 15, 2018

Notes:

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SDSU PROJECT
IDENTITY QUOTES
May 15, 2018

Introduction

The following data was requested in extension to the original report. This data was pulled to provide a better representation of the feelings and opinions of individuals who took the survey and specifically self-identified as Native, Indigenous, Hispanic, or Mexican. The researchers had to decide how to categorize this requested data since many responses claimed more than one identity construct. For instance, in cases where a respondent claimed to be Mesoamerican, Mexican or Mexican-American and an Aztec descendant, their response was categorized as Native descent. Therefore, the category of Native descent refers to those who claim to be descendants of any native groups within the Americas. Those who self-identified as Chicanx were placed in the Mexican category as this identity signifies Mexican-American heritage. In addition, it should be noted that the ethnic identification of Latinos and Hispanics are often confused and even misidentified as a racial identification since many people do not understand the complex differences between the two when self-identifying. Whether a response was categorized Native or Indigenous was determined wholly be the respondents words choice - these two identity constructs can be considered highly similar but Indigenous was more recently adopted by many native peoples as a more empowering term. As mentioned in the codebook, the level of positive / negative refers to the preliminary code which denotes the respondents tone or attitude toward the survey.

Finally, since qualitative analyses do not lend themselves well to numerical representation and categorization (especially in the case of self-reported data) this portion of the data can be considered but should not be too strongly weighted. Most responses were found under the considerations code category which is where the identity constructs were labeled. The following section includes each response and possibly includes the parent code in which the response was found. (It should be noted that this data does not include the data which was coded by hand - ¼ of the original data set.)

ALUMNI

A - Native Descent - Positive (8)

My brother and I are alumni/Native American. At no time have we felt the Aztec name, mascot or logo was depicted in a manner other than demonstrating school pride and honor. My 10-year-old son saw the Warrior and asked what he stood for. He didn't know what an Aztec is/was. It was a great way to share school's tradition and world history.

My husband & 2 sons are proud Native Americans (Potawatomi); our oldest, Max, graduated from SDSU w/a graduate degree in 2017. My boys & my husband come from the perspective that the Aztec moniker is an honor & is tastefully & respectfully represented on the halls of campus, @ football games, & other school-sponsored events. I proudly support the Aztec Warrior, & want its legacy to continue.

As a family of documented Native Americans we do not take offense to the use of the Aztec warrior. You are pandering to current student PC population. How many actual Native Americans are complaining and why? It is a dignified depiction of a Native American. They should be proud and not want to be completely forgotten in history.

My family has indigenous roots in the area and we LOVE the Aztec moniker. SDSU uses it in proudly and respectfully and I see no need for change. Please keep name and spear logos

My grandmother on my father's side was 100% Indian from Central Mexico, half my family lives in Central Mexico. I am in no way offended or find the Aztec name and Mascot to be racist. Keep the Aztec nickname and keep the Aztec Warrior!

My roots go back to the Aztecs on my mother's side. I feel pride to see them portrayed as strong warriors representing SDSU. This is a small minority of vocal people who are leading you to make a terrible decision. It will never end. They will always find something to be offended by. I will not support the university if you move away from the Aztec moniker.

You have got to be kidding! I am an AZTEC for life. I am a quarter Cherokee and Comanche. It doesn't offend me at all. Honored to be called an AZTEC after a great Nation in central America

Please keep both. As an American with mixed racial heritage, including American Indian, I very much like the Aztec warrior and feel he portrays strength and honors the heritage.

A - Native Descent - Negative (3)

The moniker & warrior are misappropriations of Native culture and therefore offensive. I am proud to be an SDSU alumni and don't need these misused references to express that pride. People who vote to keep these symbols are ignorant of Native American culture and pride. We are not Aztecs and we never were unless our ancestors were Aztecs. Only true Aztecs have a right to claim what is theirs.

'The SDSU Warrior is a creation of SDSU, not an actual Nahuatl character. The Aztec Warrior needs to respectful and represent the positive aspects of all SDSU, all its students, faculty, administrators and

alumni. It should be respectful of its reflects on all Native American cultures, especially to our local Kumeyaay community and the existing Nahuatl (descendants of the Aztec empire) people.

This is a qualified no. I am Native American and am disturbed by racially and culturally insensitive portrayals of our people as mascots. The problem in my mind is that white folks can't seem to do it with dignity and respect. SDSU must be given great credit for handling the issue in a relatively dignified manner for as long as it has. Rebranding is always painful, but it needs to be done.

A - Hispanic - Positive (2)
Keeping the Aztec warrior is NOT disrespectful. Being of Hispanic ethnicity and having been to Mexico City and the pyramids, it makes me proud to be associated with SDSU Aztecs

As a Latino I believe the depiction of the Aztec warrior is not offensive, rather it displays reverence for the historically significant culture.

A - Hispanic - Negative (2)

A - Mexican - Positive (21)

I am of Aztec ancestry, of which my grandmother was very proud. My grandparents moved here from Mexico City in the 1930's. At no time as a student (graduating Magna Cum Laude) did I feel the name Aztec had a negative or demeaning connotation. Instead, it carries a strong, courageous, positive and proud image--a spirit that I sincerely hope will live on at SDSU.

As a Californian & 4th gen Mexican-American, I'm proud to be an Aztec. I am one of the few members of my family to graduate college. Choosing SDSU was in part because of my cultural ancestors. I do request future Aztec warriors be portrayed by Mexican-American students

As a direct descendant or this extinct historic people, I feel that it is an honor to have my lineage remembered in this unique way. Without SDSU keeping the memory of these ancient people in the forefront, the name would be primarily associated with a lousy crossover vehicle and a few paragraphs in Western Civilization books. I'm proud to be both biologically & Educationally an Aztec for life.

One of the reasons I chose to attend SDSU was because of the mascot. He Aztec is a representation of my Mexican heritage and a symbol of great pride for me. It would be a shame to see it go away.

Its' used respectfully and serves a purpose to represent athletes as warriors in their own right. And having the Aztec warrior seems to remind me, Mexican, of our past. Otherwise, I would rarely ever see someone dressed as an Aztec in my life. It's cool, shows that San Diego and SDSU specifically welcomes South American culture. I have no clue why people would find this offensive. Keep him!

My daughter is currently a 3rd generation Aztec. I am Mexican with Indian blood and I have never felt any type of offense to the name Aztec. The word Aztec to me is a symbol of strength and pride, no more,

no less. Should the Aztec identity be taken away, I for one will take away any future financial donations. Shame on the energy of the time trying to destroy our Aztec identity.

My family and I are from Mexico where the Aztecs are looked upon with great pride. I was the first person in my family to graduate from college and we still look upon the Aztec moniker with great pride. I do not feel the use of the Aztec personal as appropriation but as an honorific.

My family has Aztec roots and we are in no way offended by the SDSU Aztec moniker or the Aztec Warrior. If anything, they were one of the reasons I chose SDSU as my university. Embracing the Aztec culture for the four years of my schooling was one of the ways I was able to connect to my Aztec roots. Please don't change it.

As a family with three generations of Aztecs-11 from 1956-present, we have great pride in the Aztec nickname. However, we have never liked the human Aztec Warrior and the spear imagery used as part of his image. The original image of Monty was much less controversial.

As a first generation Mexican-American with Native American roots from both sides of my family, I am extremely proud to have attended SDSU and graduated as an Aztec For Life! Those against the moniker and mascot would rather have no history preserved than the continued honor of representing the Aztec empire, one of the greatest civilizations of history.

The Aztec symbol and Monty is synonymous with SDSU. I am Hispanic...specifically Mexican as I was born in Mexico. I have Aztec blood from my ancestors. I am not in the least offended by the current Aztec symbols. Guild ridden Progressive. People need not feel that they are offending me. I think they are stupid. Let's keep SDSU'S traditions alive.

'The Aztec moniker and human representation have never diminished the image of the Aztec culture. On the contrary, as a woman of Mexican decent I feel pride and honored to have my culture represented.

The Aztecs were a civilization advanced in many areas including in defense of their culture from foreign invaders. As a Latina with over 50% ancestry from native peoples of origin in what is now Mexico and the Californians, I am proud to be an alumni of SDSU and its Aztec and Hispanic blend of culture and architecture

The fact that this is an issue is absurd. I'm Mexican/American and an Aztec for Life, please don't let the snowflakes take the name and image from our community.

he fact that you refer to the spear head as barbaric is insulting as I'm half Native American/half Mexican & is a crucial part of my culture. I'm proud the symbol represents my culture as hunter/warriors. Changing anything makes it look like the SDSU is ashamed of the culture it represents. People who aren't even Native Americans, North or Central, need to stop telling my people what is racist.

As a Latino, I feel proud that an Aztec is used to represent a higher institution of learning

My family and I are from Mexico where the Aztecs are looked upon with great pride. I was the first person in my family to graduate from college and we still look upon the Aztec moniker with great pride. I do not feel the use of the Aztec personal as appropriation but as an honorific.

Mascot choices are derived from what is revered or respected. The Aztec mascot has gone far in associating the school with Latin America. The school was progressive in its choice. It chose mascot from a culture within Mexico, even though it is a school located in the US. It speaks volumes about wanting a cultural connection with another country, one that is not historically respected by the US.

As a proud Aztec I resent those people that have nothing better to do but try to eliminate the Aztec name and mascot. I am a proud Mexican that came from Mexico and was the first in my family to graduate college . I was there with the first warrior his name Tuffi Avii

As a descendant of the great Aztec people, I feel that it is was an honor to attend and graduate from an institution of higher learning that honored the great people. I feel it should stay as long as it done so with class, respect and dignity. It seems that the people it offends are not even the group that the Aztec monichar and symbols are meant to represent

As a direct descendant or this extinct historic people, I feel that it is an honor to have my lineage remembered in this unique way. Without SDSU keeping the memory of these ancient people in the forefront, the name would be primarily associated with a lousy crossover vehicle and a few paragraphs in Western Civilization books. I'm proud to be both biologically & Educationally an Aztec for life.

As a first generation Mexican-American, I am extremely PROUD that our local state university celebrates my culture, and the culture of a majority of our local population. It's an ode to our roots to have the Aztec be SDSUÕs mascot. I was never offended as a student, nor am I offended today to have the Aztec warrior be represented in any way. It promotes learning of another culture.

A - Mexican - Negative (2)
As a Chicano/Mexicano, I feel that the name Aztecs is fine but the human representation is NOT. The campus should then live up to its name by ensuring adequate representation of Chicanos--students, faculty, admin, and curriculum--as well as public art.

Violence on Chicanxs/Mexicans was justified by California, its citizens, and the media by claiming that we were more prone to violence because of our Aztec bloodline. The Aztec moniker and the Aztec warrior is a nod to these racist viewpoints; it perpetuates the supposed savagery of an indigenous people by connecting Aztec with battle ready warrior and then battle ready warrior to Aztec.

A - Indigenous - Positive (3)
My family has indigenous roots in the area and we LOVE the Aztec moniker. SDSU uses it in proudly and respectfully and I see no need for change. Please keep name and spear logos

My grandmother on my father's side was 100% Indian from Central Mexico, half my family lives in Central Mexico. I am in no way offended or find the Aztec name and Mascot to be racist. Keep the Aztec nickname and keep the Aztec Warrior!

My sister is a descendant of the Aztec Indians. She is proud of her heritage and how the SDSU Aztecs keep her culture alive and in the minds of the residents of San Diego. It would be an embarrassment for SDSU to change the identity of the school. We should not be ashamed of our history. We should not be bullied by those who think they have a right to control our opinions.

A - Indigenous - Negative (1)
The idea of calling Montezuma Monty is a slap in the face to all indigenous people. And I have always felt like my heritage was not respected because of The Monty Montezuma mascot. I believe the Aztec moniker should stay, but get rid of Monty Montezuma

FACULTY/STAFF

F/S - Native Descent - Positive (8)

I am of Mexican descent with ties leading all the way back to the Zapotecs, close relatives of the Aztecs themselves, and I carry no offense of any kind towards the representation of the Aztecs. The Aztec is a symbol strength and intelligence as they were a great empire and SDSU is a great exemplification of those two traits. Please keep the Aztec and do not let them be forgotten. (from Identity)

I am of Aztec descent and I am proud of having my people represented as the SDSU mascot. I have never been offended by the how we have been represented. I am offended by the continual move to erase all that is indigenous in the name of political correctness. (from Identity)

As an Aztec descendant, neither the moniker or human representation are demeaning or barbaric to me or my family. I feel as though the name should remain with the university as it is part of long history in San Diego. (from honoring)

I am a proud SDSU alumni, and SDSU staff member, and a Native American. I strongly feel that the Aztec moniker is just that; a mascot. It is not offensive, nor demeaning. To get rid of the Aztec moniker or Monte Montezuma would be a huge detriment to SDSU. (from appropriate/respectful)

Being of Aztec descent, I thought the use of image and name was appropriate. I don't understand how the use of it was inappropriate. (from appropriate/respectful)

As an Aztec descendant, neither the moniker or human representation are demeaning or barbaric to me or my family. I feel as though the name should remain with the university as it is part of long history in San Diego. (from appropriate/respectful)

My ancestors were proud Aztecs and I'm not offended by the Aztec mascot AT ALL. I will tell my children that they have Aztec blood and we are proud of our Aztec identity. The majority of my family members feel that there is no misappropriation: mascot (including human represent). please choice what the majority want even if that is to change the name because that is what democracy is all about. (from appropriate/respectful)

Being Hispanic with native American roots I feel it would be an honor to have a my heritage represented. (from pride)

F/S - Native Descent - Negative (0)

F/S - Hispanic - Positive (1)

I am of Hispanic heritage and find it absolutely NOT offensive at all. (from appropriate/respectful)

F/S - Hispanic - Negative (0)

F/S - Mexican - Positive (7)

I am Mexican American, first generation born in the USA. I have hundreds of years of Hispanic, Mexican native, and Mexican traditions in my family. And none of them are hurt, or feel like it's a misrepresentation or making fun of. It's a mascot. We understand. And we love having our culture represented. (from identity)

I am a white Mexican and the blood that runs through my veins through culture and family is the strongest part of me although I'm only a quarter Hispanic. Isn't it a trocity to see where our world has gone concerning the joy of unity and culture division is futile and we will all suffer in the end if we cannot come to a simple loving agreement of one another.
I am AZTEC PROUD (from Identity)

I am a SDSU alumni, I work at a SDSU auxiliary, and I identify myself as Mexican American (Chicana) and I am proud to be represented by the Aztecs and their history. The Aztec identity should be celebrated and recognized. If any change takes place it should only enhance the Aztec identity. I'm proud to be an Aztec! (from Identity)

I am of Mexican decent with ties leading all the way back to the Zapotecs, close relatives of the Aztecs themselves, and I carry no offense of any kind towards the representation of the Aztecs. The Aztec is a symbol strength and intelligence as they were a great empire and SDSU is a great exemplification of those two traits. Please keep the Aztec and do not let them be forgotten. (from honoring)

As a Mexican-American, I think the Aztec name and appearance is not being misappropriated. I am proud the Aztecs and Aztec culture is recognized. It is not represented as barbaric. Those who oppose the Aztec representation really need to research the ancient Aztec tribes. The Aztecs were not the same as the native american tribes here in the United States and should not be compared to them. (from honoring)

As a Mexican I find the use of an Aztec to be of much pride and strength. I do not find it offensive. I believe removing the Aztec from SDSU would be another way to oppress the Mexican culture and be another hard hit to this population. (from appropriate/respectful)

As graduate (BS & MS) of San Diego State University, now a faculty member, and a 1st generation Mexican-American, I am PROUD that San Diego State has the Aztecs as our symbol. The Aztecs symbol represents pride in our region and community. (from pride)

As part of the Mexican culture, I believe it is an honor when there is tribute to and an attempt to preserve the Aztec culture. Having an Aztec Warrior as a University representation prompts our University community to engage in learning more about this heritage, and the University is in the right path to illicit conversations that create a more culturally competent community. (from forward thinking)

F/S - Mexican - Negative (0)

F/S - Indigenous - Positive (0)

F/S - Indigenous - Negative (1)

As a traditional indigenous Aztec dancer, I find the human representation of the Aztec offensive as it reflects cultural misappropriation. We make our regalia with our own hands and it has a specific traditional significance. I am severely offended. We are also receiving negative comments nationwide; we are one of the few schools left with an indigenous mascot. Thank you (from offensive)

STUDENTS
S - Native Descent - Positive (25)

As a woman of Native American and Mexican descent, I feel as though the Aztec is a great way to represent our school. We are showing the Aztec in a positive light and I could not be more proud to call myself an Aztec. I think it is honoring to the Aztec peoples if done with respect. I am an ancestor of the Aztecs.

I am Aztec and my family originates from Mexico. I view the Aztec moniker as a tribute to the Aztec culture.

I am an Aztec Warrior! I have overcome the invisible fences of being a minority in my own land!
I am an Aztec for Life

I am a Meso-American. In no way do I feel the moniker is offensive. If anything I feel the moniker brings history and culture to a region where Aztecs once lived and I'm proud to see the moniker represented in what was once Azatlan in a respectful and prideful way.

I can see why people would be upset about the Aztec Warrior but changing the Aztec moniker would change the entire school's brand and sense of community. I am Native American and I know cultures being exploited is bad, but I don't think SDSU exploits the Aztec culture.

Coming from native decent I do not see the Aztec moniker as offensive. Entering the school I knew exactly what I was choosing to be known as, an Aztec. Not graduating as an Aztec will be a huge loss for me and my fellow students who had intentions to be Aztec Alumni. I am proud of
Aztec heritage and innovation.

As somebody who has bloodlines to the Aztecs, I don’t find any of this offensive. I represent it with pride and honor. Aztecs were brutal anyway so if anything, we are not representing Aztecs properly.

As an Indian, I believe showing homage to native warriors is one of the few ways we still honor the indigenous people.

As a Native American, I am proud to be a part of SDSU as an Aztec. You people are not Native American and have no idea what you are taking about, leave the Aztec name alone and keep out school proud. Go Aztecs!

As a mixed-race Student with Native American ancestors, and an Anthropology and American Indian Studies student, I value and see the respect shown to tte Aztec Warrior.

As a descendant of the Aztecs I am proud to be a San Diego Aztec now. As long as the name and image are treated in a respectful manner I support the continue usage of it.

As a descendant of Aztec natives, I don't find anything wrong with keeping the Aztec name and mascot as one to represent us. However, I strongly think that further education related to the Aztecs would be beneficial, especially for those who don't understand why the Aztec mascot could potentially be problematic.

I am of native American descent and do find it offensive at all. I think Aztecs were a people who were ahead of their time. I am proud to be an SDSU Aztec. The thousands of people who have graduated from SDSU as an Aztec what now we become something else? as For Monty Montezuma I think he is in good taste and represents a warrior a strong person such as an SDSU student.

Being Aztec descendent myself; I see absolutely no problem with our current moniker, not so I think we have an issue with the human rep. As long as the rep doesn't do anything insulting

I myself am a decent of Aztecs and find that the mascot is not in any way offensive, but rather empowering. The Aztec empire no longer exists, but with this mascot of fearless warriors and advanced civilization is being honored and an inspiration. Aztecs are NOT NATIVE AMERICANS and people are conflating the issue of mistreatment of Native Americans and the past Central (Mexican) indigenous people

As a third generation Aztec; My grandmother attended the Normal Street Teaching College and Both my parents carry degrees from SDSU. I was around proud to be accepted as a Aztec. My family which shares Latino decent has always upheld both the Name Aztec and Monty as symbols of ethnic pride NOT Oppression. KEEP MONTY

I myself am a Yaqui Indian and I see having the Aztec as a symbol of strength and honor (from strength)

I am Native American and do not find the Aztec logo or name as demeaning. Unlike the old Monty logo or the current Cleveland Indians logo, the name Aztec shows pride for SDSU and the Aztec people. The buildings are named after Aztec words, and even the super computer I run my simulations on is named after an Aztec god. To me, SDSU Aztec's brings pride. (from not offensive)

I come from a Native American background and find this fine. The representation is in no way offensive, and I assume it offends no one of legitimate Aztec heritage. I've also read and studied Native American heritage. (from not offensive)

As a descendent of the Chichimeca, I personally say that appropriation arguments against the mascot are BS. (from not offensive/native descent)

This level of political correctness is not what makes America great. I come from a Latino and Pauma Indian background and nor do I feel offended by the moniker. There are no polls that show any offense then some small fringes pushing an agenda. In my community we are proud of all of our countries history and traditions, the good and the bad (from appropriate/respectful)

As a woman of Native American and Mexican descent, I feel as though the Aztec is a great way to represent our school. We are showing the Aztec in a positive light and I could not be more proud to call myself an Aztec. (from pride/native descent/appropriate/respectful)

I'm a mestizo Mexican with Nahua background. Seeing the Aztecs represented at an American university has always been a source of pride for me. I've never seen the Aztecs represented negatively in my time at State and I think seeing buildings with Nahuatl names has been a positive experience, not a negative one. (from pride)

As a Native American, I am proud to be a part of SDSU as an Aztec. You people are not Native American and have no idea what you are taking about, leave the Aztec name alone and keep out school proud. Go Aztecs! (from pride)

S - Native Descent - Negative (5)

I think the mascot is very offensive. I am a person of color and the Aztecs are my actual ancestors. There are a million more appropriate options for a mascot. Tradition isn't a good excuse to keep the offensive mascot.

Having the Aztec as our mascot teaches the students of SDSU that cultural appropriation is okay, this mascot does not represent academia and strength, it shows how the painful history and rich traditions of native people are used for entertainment and this school clearly does not care about the psychological damage it does to native student like myself, we need to acknowledge the culture of all.

Haawka. Lora Paz wii nyechuii. Enya unyawaay wii iichuii Paz Ysleta del Sur Pueblo kupaay. Hello, my name is Lora Paz and the Paz family is from Ysleta del Sur Pueblo. The Aztec mascot and moniker creates stereotypes and continues to erase the existence of Native people of this land. It's important for the university and students to be aware that this is Indian land.

As a Native American, I am extremely upset that our school has continued to ignore the voices of indigenous people who have demanded that this mascot be changed since its adoption. It erases the Kumeyaay presence on their own land and promotes harmful stereotypes that harm our Native students. Please do not continue this dishonorable "tradition."

I think the mascot is very offensive. I am a person of color and the Aztecs are my actual ancestors. There are a million more appropriate options for a mascot. Tradition isn't a good excuse to keep the offensive mascot. (from offensive)

S - Hispanic - Positive (3)
I am Hispanic and I fully support our Aztec moniker.

I am Hispanic (Mexican) and I do not find the Aztec problematic at all. If anything, I am proud that SDSU honors the Aztecs by using their name. (from not offensive/mexican heritage)

I am 25 and half Mexican. In no way shape or form am I offended (from not offensive)

S - Hispanic - Negative (3)

S - Mexican - Positive (26)
I find this to be pathetic. I am from Mexico and every time I go visit I see someone dressed like an Aztec on the streets. I cannot believe that some people who are not even Mexican or from Aztec decent actually find offense to this. I believe that our time, energy and money should be spent on something else (how about a stadium for our football team)

I honestly don't understand why the moniker is such a problem. People find the simplest things to get offended with. Being Mexican, I love the fact that I go to a school who's mascot is related to my ancestors.

I feel like the Aztecs are a symbol of strength and perseverance. There is a lot of talk about people feeling offended by the Aztec but as a Latino whose whole family is from Mexico we see the Aztec as a source of pride

I am Hispanic (Mexican) and I do not find the Aztec problematic at all. If anything, I am proud that SDSU honors the Aztecs by using their name.

I am from Mexico I have Aztec blood in me and I don't find this offensive at all its a tradition that has been established for years. I feel proud to be an SDSU Aztec.

I am Latina and I am not at all offended by the mascot

I am Mexican - American and I feel that it is an honor that a part of my culture can represent such a strong and intelligent group of people at San Diego State University. There are some who say that being represented as Aztecs is culturally insensitive, but I believe otherwise. San Diego State should be known as the Aztecs.

I am Mexican-American and I believe that the Aztec is a great mascot. I am proud to be an SDSU Aztec.

I am Aztec and my family originates from Mexico. I view the Aztec moniker as a tribute to the Aztec culture.

I am 25 and half Mexican. In no way shape or form am I offended

Honestly, I'm Mexican and I think it's pretty dope that my mascot is an Aztec like me. Just don't disrespect the Aztec culture by having like a white person be the Aztec mascot or something.

As an American of Mexican descent, and heritage, I'm extremely proud to be a SDSU Aztec. The moniker is a representation of the Aztec pride and I believe it should not be changed.

As a student of Mexican descent, I find no offense in our current moniker. My sister who is also a fellow SDSU student shares the same sentiments. I am very proud of the identity of our student body and diversity

As a person of direct Mexican descent, I feel great pride in being represented by one of my ancestors. However, I would find it more adequate for the mascot to be represented as a jaguar, which was the name given to actual Aztec warriors. This for me would eliminate the feeling of the dehumanization of native people by being called a mascot.

As a multiracial student I feel no offense in the name we choose to represents ourselves with. I love the atmosphere of the games I attend. I feel proud to be called an SDSU Aztec, as a person strong Mexican heritage.

As a Mexican-American, I'm proud to have the mascot of my school be an Aztec. No one cares about the Minnesota Vikings, why should we be offended by the Aztecs?

As a Mexican-American student, I feel no negative repercussions of being called an aztec I feel proud to carry my heritage to university and have it be exposed that San Diego is historically Aztlan.

As a Mexican and someone who can trace my ancestry to the Aztecs, it fills me with pride to go to a school that has the Aztecs as the mascot. I find that this University's representation is completely respectful, and I find it hurtful when people are trying to take the mascot away, because it is something I am proud of.

As a Mexican and graduate student i feel great respect for our Aztec warrior. It is a symbol that is not to be frowned upon or disrespected. It is a symbol of tenacity and virtue.

As a Latino at this school. I am overjoyed to see that San Diego state has stayed true to its history and represent the Aztecs. This was all a part of Mexico, which has strong ties to Aztec culture and keeping this mascot is the best way to celebrate their history here in America. I understand changing derogatory mascots to go with the times but the Aztecs and our Aztec is to be seen with pride!

As a Hispanic, more specifically Mexican, I can say that the mascot is not offensive at all. In fact, I believe we should be proud of it. There is no point in changing the mascot after so many years of being the Aztecs.

As a Chicano decedent of indigenous people of central Mexico, I support the Aztec moniker but I am reluctant on the human representation of the Aztec Warrior. I also support making a compulsory class on Aztec history/culture to new freshmen.

I believe that the Aztec moniker honors the Aztec people and other indigenous people. I have family in certain areas of Mexico such as Mexico City area and YucatÃ¡n which are both places rich in indigenous culture. I have discussed this topic with some of my family members and they feel proud that such a prestigious school in America would represent them in such a big and honorable way.

I am of Mexican descent, whilst I don't have direct relationship with the Aztec peoples, I have always enjoyed learning about the Aztecs. This is much ado about nothing.

Being Mexican myself, I am not offended by the Aztec mascot. It is a symbol of strength. Those who are offended knew what our mascot was before deciding to apply here, so I don't understand why they choose to be offended now.

I am from Mexico I have Aztec blood in me and I don't find this offensive at all its a tradition that has been established for years. I feel proud to be an SDSU Aztec. (from pride/Mexican heritage)

S - Mexican - Negative (1)
As a Mexican American, I find to offensive for my heritage and culture to be deemed a mascot. SDSU is not founded in Aztec lands; neither was it founded by Aztec descendants. I thank President Roush for leading this initiative to correct an issue that should have been addressed from the beginning.

S - Indigenous - Positive (8)
I am all for keeping the Aztec moniker, it is a representation of a distinguished higher education institution. It is a representation of a rich culture. I am of the most indigenous parts of Mexico with beautiful Aztec influenced culture, traditions and language. To think that the Aztec moniker will be replaced, it is an attack to my identity. I am proud that SDSD holds up high the name.

As an American of Mexican descent, I am also from indigenous descent. I personally do not see an issue with keeping the Aztec name. San Diego was a Mexican territory at one point.

As an descendant of indigenous peoples, I do not find offense to the use of the Aztec name or like by San Diego State. Rather, I find that it is celebratory of the culture and raises more awareness of indigenous cultures.

As a student, who is half indigenous I was pulled to SDSU for not only the amazing Business program, but also for the fact I wanted to be an Aztec. As the first person in my family to attend university, I didn’t know which to choose. I have a teacher who was an Aztec. He spoke highly of what it means to be an Aztec for Life! As students we do not simply take the name, we stand to embody the Aztec.

As a member of the indigenous community I think it’s ridiculous that people who are not of my culture telling me I am misrepresented. We love the Aztec because SDSU does not use it in a negative light and celebrates our culture. Keep our Aztec!!

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As an descendant of indigenous peoples, I do not find offense to the use of the Aztec name or like by San Diego State. Rather, I find that it is celebratory of the culture and raises more awareness of indigenous cultures. (from not offensive/native descent)

I believe that the Aztec moniker honors the Aztec people and other indigenous people. I have family in certain areas of Mexico such as Mexico City area and YucatÃ¡n which are both places rich in indigenous culture. I have discussed this topic with some of my family members and they feel proud that such a prestigious school in America would represent them in such a big and honorable way. (from not offensive/tradition history)

S - Indigenous - Negative (0)

COMMUNITY

C - Native Descent - Positive (2)

I am of Indian descent and think this is taking it too far. keep the Aztec Warrior as a symbol!

It's iconic, it's NOT disrespectful, we can view it in a positive light, people need to lighten up on these things. I'm an African-American mixed with Native American and I THINK THE AZTECS are GREAT!

C - Native Descent - Negative (0)

C - Hispanic - Positive (1)

There is absolutely no reason to even consider a change in this tradition. I am a American-latino and I would be offended more if a change was made as I am very proud of the Aztec moniker.

C - Hispanic - Negative (0)

C - Mexican - Positive (4)

As a Mexican by birth and an American by adoption, it is a pride that a university as an educational center celebrates the Aztec culture. It hurts that you doubt your identity and your history.

As a Mexican by birth and an American by adoption, it is a pride that a university as an educational center celebrates the Aztec culture. It hurts that you doubt your identity and your history. (from positive)

As a Latino with family roots in Mexico I'm proud of the Aztec history and culture and, in my opinion, SDSU's use of the Aztec helps to perpetuate the history and culture by bringing awareness by association. It's no different, in my opinion, than USC's use of the Trojan. In both cases both schools treat the name and mascot with respect and students at the University have the opportunity to view it as a symbol of pride in their school. (from appropriate/respectful)

I have no problem with the name or mascot, and being of Mexican descent, I enjoy seeing that representation. (from appropriate/respectful)

C - Mexican - Negative (0)

C - Indigenous - Positive (0)

C - Indigenous - Negative (0)