



California
State
University,
Fresno

Resolution: Removal of Name from University Library

THE ACADEMIC SENATE OF CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY FRESNO

DATE: May 2, 2022

Whereas, A thorough academic survey of the boxes containing the archives of Henry Madden has demonstrated beyond a reasonable doubt that he held antisemitic views and repeatedly made pro-Nazi statements during the mid-1930s; and

Whereas, These documents and others from outside institutions demonstrate that Madden's antisemitism persisted through World War II, and his racial insensitivity through his thirty-year career at Fresno State; and

Whereas, These same records fail to demonstrate that Madden ever honestly reckoned with or repudiated his one-time support of Hitler or the Nazi regime; and

Whereas, Despite Madden's instrumentality in growing the University Library, both in physical size and collection of materials, into a research library; and despite his ardent war against censorship and for intellectual freedom; and despite his devoted advocacy for library staff and faculty wage increases and job mobility, his documented history of racial insensitivity and derisiveness contributed to a climate that was combative toward students of color and distracted from the university's mission and the academic focus of its students, as it does once again; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the name of Henry Madden should be removed from the University Library building and all affiliated branding.

Academic Senate
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MEMORANDUM