

Resolution Regarding Principles, Values and Goals for College Reorganization

The Academic Senate of Santa Rosa Junior College

Whereas, Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC) is dedicated to high quality education;

Whereas, A healthy shared governance system is crucial to a healthy college climate that fosters educational excellence, and the health of shared governance depends on the recognition of faculty discipline expertise, faculty independence, and academic freedom;

Whereas, It is crucial in shared governance to maintain that relevant expertise exercises its rightful purview, however the purview of the faculty has been blurred over time in part because of job functions of administrators, for example deans, has seeped into faculty purview, and some educational branches of the institution have been allocated to committees driven equally by administrators, or privatized;¹

Whereas, That the Senate's lawful purview includes "institutional planning and budget development" (#10 of the 10 + 1), which should include categorical funds according to an Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative (IEPI) Partnership Resource Team (PRT) that studied SRJC in 2017,² the failure of which has in part led to the current budget crisis of the Student Equity and Achievement Program (SEAP), and to administrative bloat in which even after the Early Retirement Incentive (REI) program results in the departure of some administrators, SRJC will remain above the state average ratio of administrators to Full Time Equivalent Faculty (FTEF) and Full Time Equivalent Students (FTES);

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for Santa Rosa Junior College recommend to the District and its designees that the reorganization shall include a revision of shared governance structures and bodies that give appropriate weight to the constituents whose purview the task is primarily in;³ and

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for Santa Rosa Junior College recommend to the District and its designees that decision making for the allocation of categorical funding streams designated for student success and equity (#5 in the 10 + 1) be integrated into the Budget Advisory Committee in which the Academic Senate has a role in relationship to the District for which the latter has a responsibility to "reach mutual agreement" with the Academic Senate, for "processes for institutional planning and budget development";

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for the Santa Rosa Junior College recommend to the District and its designees that the reorganization of the college include the reduction of the number of administrators; and

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for the Santa Rosa Junior College recommend to the District and its designees that the job descriptions of deans and vice presidents be clarified reflecting their role in supporting rather than supervising faculty, and in service to the mission of the college.

¹ For example, Community Education, unlike in the past, currently operates largely without the involvement of discipline faculty.

² Budget recommendations: "Needs to make budget recommendations and should include integration with planning, alignment of resources and planning, and should include a resource allocation role of all funding including categorical funds." –PRT Notes

³ For example, since the Curriculum Review Committee is Academic Senate Purview, although administrative and classified support is essential, there need be no voting positions for deans on the CRC; Since Online Instruction is curriculum and pedagogy, Distance Ed it should be under the Academic Senate with administrative tech support; since the academic calendar is in the Contract and a negotiated item, AFA should have a greater voice than is currently the case.