

Academic Senate Resolution in Support of Trans Students

Whereas Santa Rosa Junior College has no current policy regarding transgender students and has received a score of 2 out of 5 on the Pride Index¹, a national benchmarking tool that identifies eight factors that can be modified to create a safer environment for LGBTQ students, faculty, and staff;

Whereas there has been an increase of anti-trans attitudes throughout California and locally in Sonoma County, and trans students at SRJC have reported feeling isolated, unsafe in dorms, and lack a functioning process to handle discrimination complaints;

Whereas trans students face additional burdens, such as specifying preferred pronouns and searching for gender neutral bathrooms, and current California Community College Athletic Association participation policies require trans student-athletes to self-identity and undergo other processes that may cause harm and reproduce trauma;

Whereas SRJC's Queer Resource Center (QRC) has not been able to access data needed to provide outreach and support to students who identify as LGBTQ;

RESOLVED that the Board develop policies and procedures that support trans students, including providing the QRC with data needed to provide outreach to LGBTQ students, requiring cultural competency training for Resident Assistants (RAs) in dorms, revising the student complaint and grievance process, and providing professional development opportunities on creating an LGBTQ supportive campus environment and inclusive curriculum;

RESOLVED that the Academic Senate recommends SRJC Athletics opt out of implementing harmful trans student-athlete policies and commit to working with the QRC leadership to assist trans student-athletes with safe and full participation in competitive athletics.

¹ The [Pride Index](#) was launched in 2007, and the index's instrument is reviewed yearly by its Advisory Board, which includes university researchers and LGBTQ campus leaders. It is supported by the Campus Pride Q Research Institute for Higher Education. Their evaluative instrument focuses on LGBTQ inclusion in the following eight areas: 1) Policy Inclusion; 2) Support and Institutional Commitment; 3) Academic Life; 4) Student Life; 5) Housing; 6) Campus Safety; 7) Counseling and Health; and 8) Recruitment and Retention Efforts. They compiled a [report for SRJC](#) in 2016.