

Academic Senate

Solano Community College 400 Suisun Valley Road, Fairfield, CA 94534 www.solano.edu/academic senate

Senate Resolution 11.16.2020: Supporting Programs Disproportionally Impacted by the Shift to Online Learning

WHEREAS, in March of 2020, the world was hit by the COVID–19 pandemic causing Solano Community College to move all of its courses to an online format;

WHEREAS, this shift to an online format made it difficult, if not impossible, to offer some courses and disproportionally impacted enrollment in some courses in various disciplines, leading to cancellation of classes;

WHEREAS, this shift to an online format coincided with administrative reductions in the number of course offerings for budget purposes;

WHEREAS, impacted programs have experienced complex challenges, including: difficulty providing essential facilities, supplies, equipment, and technology to students in fine and performing arts classes; enhanced workload for faculty and staff in researching and implementing solutions and work-arounds; cancellation or preemptive non-scheduling of classes for which work-arounds are not feasible or affordable, impacting the students' ability to complete degrees in a timely manner; and student reservations about taking fine and performing arts classes in an online format;

WHEREAS, the Academic Senate of Solano Community College values all SCC programs, and recognizes the special importance of programs that provide students the opportunity to explore art, dance, music, theater, and other forms of expression, at a time when students' mental health and physical well-being are vulnerable;

WHEREAS, Solano Community College faculty teaching in these programs have been working hard to be creative and innovative during the transition to online learning in order to provide quality online class offerings, and students in these programs have been adventurous and flexible in taking these innovative online classes;

RESOLVED, that the Academic Senate of Solano Community College collaborate with the Faculty Union to advocate for additional ways to avoid course cancellations due to COVID- related low enrollment;

RESOLVED, that the Academic Senate of Solano Community College support getting the word out to students about courses in these areas that are available and viable in an online format;

RESOLVED, that the Academic Senate of Solano Community College acknowledge their appreciation of the innovation and commitment that faculty in these programs have demonstrated;

RESOLVED, that the Academic Senate of Solano Community College, as we emerge from the Covid-19 Pandemic, will support these areas to return to full, pre-pandemic, enrollment and operations.

Authors:

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