

Resolution to Explore Alternative Enrollment Strategies

Whereas, the downward enrollment spiral at Peralta Community College campuses was only exacerbated by the recent pandemic, and continues as the district and colleges demand faculty and staff return to campus,

Whereas, standard enrollment strategies and attempts over the past 6 years to address Peralta Colleges' loss in FTES through the cutting of courses seems to have only exacerbated and accelerated that loss,

Whereas, nearly the entire executive team at the Peralta District Office was appointed by the board outside of the standard hiring process, and thus not vetted by faculty and staff who have a far better understanding of our unique District, colleges, and community, and most often prioritize those values in the hiring process,

Whereas, it is the faculty, staff, and student futures that will bear the brunt of administrative decisions to cut classes, due to the fact that lateral moves and transfers are the norm for executive administrators at California Community Colleges— especially those with an “interim” title— again leaving faculty and staff to be held accountable for the unilateral actions of a group of executives who will likely have different professional homes within only a few years at most,

Whereas, Title 5, Section 53200 entitles the faculty senate to make recommendations to the administration as to academic and professional matters, with particular attention to No. 10, which points to, “processes for institutional planning and budget development,” a notation that among other things clearly points to enrollment,

Whereas, Peralta Administrative Procedure 2511 also states that the “Board, Chancellor, and College Presidents and their Management Teams shall ‘consult collegially’ and ‘rely primarily’ on the DAS and the College Academic Senate ‘academic and professional matters’ areas,” such as the one cited in the previous stanza.

Resolved, the District Academic Senate insists that the District Administrative Leadership team allow and even promote the presentation of alternative enrollment strategies for Peralta Colleges, including but not limited to the noteworthy and rather popular presentation regarding class cuts and enrollment strategies by PFT President Jennifer Shanoski, who is also a Peralta faculty member, and that they do so willingly, in an effort to follow their own values on communication: “we seek first to understand, then to be understood,” and

Resolved, the District Academic Senate insists upon a clear-eyed and honest discussion as to the processes that governed the decision-making around the class cuts at our campuses, with both District and individual College leadership teams present, so faculty may hear with a singular administrative voice where, how, and why these decisions were made, without the now customary finger pointing made by one party in the absence of the other.