

Resolution on Emergency Remote Teaching and Implications for Teaching Online

Whereas, Board Policy BP 2.08 District Participatory Governance Process states that the Board of Trustees will rely primarily on faculty expertise in academic and professional matters;

Whereas, Academic Senate's primary function is to represent the faculty and make recommendations to the administration of the college and to the governing board of the San Mateo Community College District with respect to academic and professional matters (Title 5,53200); which include policy development and implementation in the area of Curriculum;

Whereas, The distance education addendum is a part of curriculum development and curriculum processes, and the decision to add a distance education addendum to a course, and thus teach the course online, is faculty-initiated;

Whereas, On March 4, 2020, the Governor of California declared a State of Emergency due to the outbreak and spread of a novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), resulting in the CCCC declaring that all higher education instruction be converted to emergency remote teaching indefinitely;

Whereas, The District Academic Senate agreed at its April 6, 2020 meeting to recommend to the Board of Trustees, on behalf of all faculty, to offer only online classes in the summer of 2020;

Whereas, The lack of guidance available to colleges for navigating the very real possibility of once again shifting planned face-to-face classes for Fall 2020 to emergency remote teaching has caused concern among SMCCCD faculty with respect to the following:

- *whether course delivery decisions may go forward without appropriate faculty consultation as to the appropriateness of the course for online delivery, either planned Distance Education or conversion to Emergency Remote Teaching; and
- *whether faculty will be forced into online delivery of courses that are hard to convert or whose outcomes are not at all suited to online learning;

Whereas, The faculty of Skyline College are committed to providing students with an equitable, student-ready experience which requires that all courses be delivered in formats that ensure highest success, equity of access, adequate support, and meaningful and practical teaching and learning methods,

Whereas, It is impractical or impossible to offer meaningful learning in certain courses, including but not limited to career technical education courses and STEM labs; and,

Whereas, Faculty and students in many disciplines have a long standing preference for face-to-face learning as it provides an environment rich with opportunities for instructor-learner and peer-to-peer connection,

Be it Resolved, The Skyline College Academic Senate seek and receive recognition from Skyline College administration of the primacy of faculty expertise in determining whether a course should be taught online and receive a Distance Education designation; and

Be it Further Resolved, The Skyline College Academic Senate seek and receive assurance by Skyline College administration that faculty will be directly consulted, as per 10+1 purview and in alignment with the dictates of Title 5 and BP 2.08, to ensure the following:

1. Individual course offerings are able to effectively achieve their student learning outcomes in the distance education format.
2. Faculty and students are provided with all necessary resources (i.e. lab kits, technology, WiFi Hotspots, etc.) to ensure an equitable experience for all students.
3. Students will not be charged additional fees to engage in online coursework.

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