FA23.03 SUPPORT FOR A FACULTY-DRIVEN APPROACH TO CLASS ENROLLMENT MAXIMUMS

From Science Division and Student Services Division Fall 2023

# FA23.03

Whereas, Local academic senates at California community colleges are organizations whose primary function is to make recommendations with respect to academic and professional matters

(Title 5, §53200) and the Academic Senate of California Community Colleges (ASCCC) asserts the role of “faculty, and especially curriculum committees, of the importance of establishing a reasonable enrollment limit for each section of any course approved by the curriculum committee” 1,2; and

Whereas, Current funding formulas practices can put an undue burden on colleges to increase course enrollment maximums and, due to such pressures, enrollment maximums in the San Bernardino Community College District have historically been assigned numbers that differ between SBVC and CHC campuses3, and between teaching modalities of the same course, and have at times been increased to unsafe and/or pedagogically unsound student numbers against the advisement of subject matter faculty expertise; and

Whereas, The ASCCC Spring 2022 Resolution 17.03 reaffirms that local senates engage in collaboration with their bargaining agents, further encourages local academic senates to be guided by the 2012 paper titled “Setting Course Enrollment Maximums: Process, Roles, and Principles”, and acknowledges the necessity of updating these guidelines to reflect a culturally responsive pedagogy and integration of “IDEAA principles, academic freedom, and the exigencies occasioned by the Covid-19 pandemic” 4; and

Whereas, Our recently updated SBVC mission states that we engage in continuous improvement, and foster an environment of meaningful learning, and our College values aim for student success, and quality education, and state that our decision-making process be based on thoughtful consideration that will best serve our students5; and the District’s Goals #1 and #2 are directly related to students success, equity, inclusion, and antiracism6, therefore,

Resolved, That the San Bernardino Valley College Academic Senate reaffirms our faculty purview in the determination of course enrollment maximums as asserted by the Academic Senate of California Community Colleges and supports ASCCC’s Spring 2022 Resolution 17.03; and

Resolved, The SBVC Academic Senate will work with the Curriculum Committee to establish and maintain course enrollment maximums through the current curriculum process in consideration of pedagogical, health, and safety factors, including but not limited to the methods of instruction, course modality, objectives and outcomes of the course, and the assessment methods as established on the course outline of record and in alignment with inclusion, diversity, equity, anti-racism, and accessibility values; and

Resolved, That the San Bernardino Valley College Academic Senate rejects the existing administrative practices that determine course enrollment maximums using criteria unrelated to pedagogical recommendations, student support, method of instruction, and classroom and lab safety, and urges the College and the District administration to critically examine and align institutional practices with those of the Academic Senate’s recommendations on course enrollment maximums as they work on enrollment management plans that also meet SBVC’s Educational Master Plan “Strategic Direction 8: Ensure Sustainability Through Fiscal Accountability with Supporting Action 5: Initiate culturally responsive strategic enrollment management”8 and thus demonstrate support of pedagogically driven enrollment maximums and in which the academic senate with discipline faculty should have primacy; and

Resolved, That the San Bernardino Valley College Academic Senate commits to fostering a symbiotic and cooperative relationship with the San Bernardino Community College District Teachers Association (SBCCDTA) in alignment with ASCCC’s papers titled “Developing A Model for Effective Senate/Union Relations8” and “The Senate and Union Relationship: Understanding Their Roles and Working Together “9.

1 Title 5 CCR § 53200 and Academic Senate for California Community Colleges “Setting Course Enrollment Maximums: Process, Roles, and Principles.” Spring 2012: https://asccc.org/papers/setting-course-enrollment- maximums-process-roles-and-principles

2 Page 3 of 2012 ASCCC document which cites “See, for example, the publication Survey of Effective Practices in Basic Skills (2003), the Rostrum article “Pedagogical-and Other-Approaches to Authenticate Student Identity” (December 2008), and resolution F 01 2.04 (Class Size in Distance Education Courses). Numerous additional resources on this topic may be found by searching for ‘class size’ at asccc.org.”

3 Crafton Hills College Academic Senate Resolution S22.01 Approved 4/20/22: https://[www.craftonhills.edu/faculty-and-staff/academic-senate/resolutions/resolutions2201.pdf](http://www.craftonhills.edu/faculty-and-staff/academic-senate/resolutions/resolutions2201.pdf)

4 ASCCC Spring 2022 Resolution 17.03 Faculty Participation in the Creation of Course Enrollment Maximums for Community College Departments and Courses: https://asccc.org/resolutions/faculty-participation-creation-course- enrollment-maximums-community-college-departments

5 SBVC Mission, Vision, Values: https://[www.valleycollege.edu/about-sbvc/missions-values.php](http://www.valleycollege.edu/about-sbvc/missions-values.php)

6 SBCCD Mission, Vision, Values & Goals Board Approved March 10, 2022: https://sbccd.edu/about- sbccd/documents/sbccdmissionvisionvaluesgoals.pdf

8 SBVC’s Educational Master Plan 2023-2028:

https://[www.valleycollege.edu/about-sbvc/office-of-president/college\_planning\_documents/documents/2023-](http://www.valleycollege.edu/about-sbvc/office-of-president/college_planning_documents/documents/2023-) 2028-sbvc-master-plan-final.pdf

9 Spring 1996, Academic Senate for California Community Colleges, Developing A Model for Effective Senate/Union Relations: https://[www.asccc.org/papers/developing-model-effective-senateunion-relations](http://www.asccc.org/papers/developing-model-effective-senateunion-relations)

10 October 2016, Academic Senate for California Community Colleges, The Senate and Union Relationship: Understanding Their Roles and Working Together: https://asccc.org/content/senate-and-union-relationship- understanding-their-roles-and-working-together