

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ESTABLISHING NON-CREDIT PROGRAMS AT SAN JOSE CITY COLLEGE

Whereas the disparity in credit and non-credit funding in California has been removed for CDCP non credit programs; and

Whereas noncredit courses offered in the four distinct categories (instructional domains) of English as a Second Language (ESL), Elementary and Secondary Basic Skills, Short-term Vocational, and Workforce Preparation are eligible for "equivalent funding with credit courses" when sequenced to lead to a Chancellor's Office approved certificate of completion, or certificate of competency, in accordance with the provisions of the California Education code governing Career Development and College Preparation (CDCP) programs

Whereas, many faculty and academic senate leaders are unfamiliar with non-credit courses and programs and there is little to no non-credit CDCP courses now offered at SJCC; and

Whereas, Over 800,000 students enroll in noncredit courses and programs every year, and noncredit courses and programs provide a demonstrated gateway to enrollment in credit programs, entry or re-entry into the job market, and critical life skills; and

Whereas, noncredit programs hold the potential to offer courses central to the mission of SJCC; and

Whereas, Academic senate leaders need to be well-informed about noncredit programs and courses in order to make informed decisions about proposals related to noncredit funding, course alignment, articulation with credit programs, and quality standards; and

Whereas noncredit courses provide additional supports that have been shown to lead to greater student success and equity; and

Whereas SJCC has a student body and feeder high schools with a disproportionately higher rate of students who are not academically prepared for credit college level work or need vital English skills to fully engage in American society; and

Whereas noncredit programs need professional development resources, the finalization of metrics to evaluate noncredit programs, dedicated Student Success and Support Program (SSSP) resources to provide orientation, assessment, placement, counseling and education plans for noncredit students; and

Whereas Data show that 71% of those who are prepared for college work at entry to community colleges are successful in meeting their goals; while very few are successful if they arrive with less-adequate preparation; and

Whereas noncredit courses can provide the essential “bridge” to enable students to be ready for college-level work and ultimately increase the numbers of SJCC Students who receive certificates and degrees; and

Whereas short-term non-credit career technical education provides students with the skills needed for job entry or re-entry, as well as career advancement or change; and

Whereas noncredit CTE programs enable students to enter gainful employment while pursuing their long-term educational goals;

Resolved: The SJCC AS establish a non-credit ad hoc committee to plan and implement non-credit courses and programs in all relevant and appropriate divisions and departments at SJCC.

Resolved: The SJCC Executive Board be directed to seek funding in cooperation with the Office of the College President for a reassigned time faculty coordinator of Non-Credit Instruction in the Spring 2016 semester.