

Resolution SP16.03 Support for a Coordinator of Distance Education

SBVC Academic Senate Executive Committee

Whereas, over 20% of FTES generated at the college over the last 18 months have been generated through courses designated as “Distance Education” courses; and Distance Education courses are offered in 35 departments across every division of the college; and over 90 faculty members teach Distance Education courses each semester;

Whereas, two Substantive Change reports were filed with the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) documenting 19 certificates and 40 degrees that can be completed by taking 50% or more of the units through Distance Education courses; and all four General Education pathways can be completed by taking 100% of the units through Distance Education courses;

Whereas, the scrutiny of Distance Education courses by the ACCJC and the federal Department of Education (DOE) is increasing, as demonstrated by the 2016 ACCJC standards and documentation; and increasing scrutiny regarding quality of online courses specifically regarding ADA compliance (as exemplified by the recent lawsuit against Miami of Ohio) necessitates strong, targeted Faculty Development and continual monitoring of DE courses;

Whereas, the Online Education Initiative (OEI) at the state Community College Chancellor’s Office is growing rapidly offering the college opportunities to use state resources to improve Distance Education; and these resources can be targeted to improve access to educational opportunities and to help meet SBVC’s institutional set standards for student retention and student success; and

Whereas, the SBVC Program Review Committee prioritized this position during the Fall 2015 needs assessment process; and the Online Program Committee has recommended a draft job description for a Coordinator of Distance Education; and Crafton Hill’s College, which has a DE program approximately 1/3 the size of SBVC, has created a position of Coordinator of Distance Education and filled that position with a faculty member with 50% reassigned time;

Resolved, the SBVC Academic Senate supports the creation of the position of Coordinator of Distance Education for the college; and

Resolved, the SBVC Academic Senate supports the filling of the position of Coordinator of Distance Education with a faculty member receiving 100% reassigned time.