

Resolution SP16.04 Need for Campus Behavioral Intervention Team

SBVC Academic Senate Executive Committee

Whereas, The National College Health Assessment of 2013 revealed that many of our students experience distress related to the challenges of the college environment and some of our students come to us with varying backgrounds, serious problems, and a myriad of unmet needs that in many cases go undetected before they arrive on our campus;

Whereas, Two states, Virginia and Illinois, violently impacted by the acts of students with mental challenges, legally require threat assessment/behavioral intervention teams, and the Behavioral Intervention Team Association estimates about 1600 college campuses currently have such teams;

Whereas, 94% of the 500 Higher Education Institutions responding to the National Behavioral Intervention Team Associations' (NABITA) 2014 survey had BIT/TAT/SOC teams* and 87% of the 53 California Community Colleges participating in the Health Services Association of California Community Colleges annual survey for 2014-2015 reported having a Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT) on their campuses;

Whereas, The college should recognize that sole departments, such as Health Services, Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS), or general counseling, often function in a silo and are not adequately staffed to provide the necessary breadth of support to students with psychological and behavioral issues; and

Whereas, Campuses with a BIT that includes representation from areas such as health services, DSPS, counseling, veterans' services, and public safety are better prepared to respond to students with mental health needs and other behavioral issues successfully;

Resolved, The San Bernardino Valley College Academic Senate strongly support the formation of a Behavioral Intervention Team on this campus; and

Resolved, The campus adopt the 2014 white papers "Threat Assessment in the Campus Setting" and "Core-Q10 Checklist: Assessment of a Behavioral Intervention Team" published by NABITA and "Balancing Safety and Support on Campus: A Guide for Campus Teams" published by the Higher Education Mental Health Alliance as guiding documents for developing this team.

*BIT (Behavioral Intervention Team); TAT (Threat Assessment Teams); SOC (Student of Concern)