Resolution FA15.05 Reimbursement of Tuition for Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts Coursework for College President

SBVC Academic Senate Executive Committee

Whereas, Education Code Section 70902(4) states that community college district Board of Trustees "employ and assign all personnel not inconsistent with the minimum standards adopted by the board of governors and establish employment practices, salaries, and benefits for all employees not inconsistent with the laws of this state";

Whereas, on 2/6/15 the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) cited San Bernardino Valley College (SBVC) with a deficiency noting the "The California State Chancellor previously determined that an equivalency existed for purposes of state minimum qualifications to teach at the community college level. However, the College President does not have a degree from a college recognized by a U.S. accrediting agency as is required for institutional compliance with ACCJC Accrediting Standards," and SBVC "must ensure that the President holds an appropriate degree from an institution accredited by a recognized U.S. accrediting agency at the time the degree was awarded";

Whereas, San Bernardino Community College District (SBCCD) AP 7250 states that management personnel are eligible for professional growth which includes tuition reimbursement from an accredited institution but according to ACCJC, College President Fisher does not meet College President minimum qualifications; and

Whereas, on 8/13/15 SBCCD Board of Trustees approved tuition reimbursement for Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts coursework at Pacific Oaks College for College President Fisher who does not hold minimum educational qualifications for the position of College President as cited by ACCJC and the SBCCD Chancellor electronically notified the campus on 4/19/15 that College President Fisher will correct the ACCJC deficiency and recommendation by completing Bachelor of Arts equivalency and Master of Arts degree in Human Development at Pacific Oaks College;

Resolved, the SBVC Academic Senate urges the SBCCD Board of Trustees to rescind the decision to reimburse tuition funds to College President Fisher and any future tuition reimbursements related to Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts coursework or until such time that College President Fisher has met the minimum educational qualifications for the position of College President as determined by ACCJC.