

Resolution SP15.04 Budget Transparency and Stable Program Funding

SBVC Academic Senate Executive Committee

Whereas, Programs such as Culinary Arts have a 45-year history of serving the entire campus with catering and an alternate dining experience for faculty, administration and students, while also providing skills to the students of the program in order to become successful within the food service industry, yet the Faculty Chair is regularly in search of promised funding and unable to pay vendors in a timely manner;

Whereas, Faculty's primary responsibility is teaching, not monitoring and overseeing timely payment of bills to the suppliers of instructional materials or needing to make repeated requests for emergency funding to keep their classes and laboratories open;

Whereas, Without consistent funding programs cannot maintain and provide the curriculum that has been approved to be taught, with students not getting a consistent experience, and often grant-based funding is sought to maintain programs, though such funding can only be used for equipment, leaving these programs void of funding to be used for instructional supplies;

Whereas, Grant-based funding is often transient and short term, leading to cyclical disruption and sustenance of all programs highly dependent on grants for their operation and is particularly disruptive to programs that have experiential or work-based learning that allow students to apply what they have learned in the classroom; and

Whereas, ACCJC Standard III.D.1 (adopted June 2014) states, "Financial resources are sufficient to support and sustain student learning programs and services and improve institutional effectiveness. The distribution of resources supports the development, maintenance, allocation and reallocation, and enhancement of programs and services. The institution plans and manages its financial affairs with integrity and in a manner that ensures financial stability;" and ACCJC Standard III.D.2 (adopted June 2014) states, "The institution's mission and goals are the foundation for financial planning, and financial planning is integrated with and supports all institutional planning. The institution has policies and procedures to ensure sound financial practices and financial stability. Appropriate financial information is disseminated throughout the institution in a timely manner," and Accreditation Standard III.D.2.c of SBVC's 2014 Accreditation Self-Evaluation states that appropriate financial information is provided throughout the institution;

Resolved, SBVC faculty cannot successfully plan to provide "quality education and services for a diverse community of learners" nor meet the strategic goals and initiatives of Access, Success and Campus Culture and Climate set forth in the SBVC Strategic Plan 2014-2019 without an appropriate, accurate and stable budget for future planning;

Resolved, That the SBVC Academic Senate supports the establishment of a realistic college budget for all programs that is tied to the actual costs of the laboratory and instructional areas to promote success, access and equity of all college programs; and

Resolved, That the SBVC College President, SBCC District, Chancellor, and Board of Trustees support and maintain transparency in budget processes, allowing for consistent funding, planning and the paying of vendors in a timely manner.