

# Advocate for changes to recent community college repeatability regulations that limit student success and access

Resolution for the ASCCC as of March 18, 2014

Whereas, California Community Colleges have built extensive depth and breadth of educational programs for over fifty years, responding to the educational needs of their respective communities, contributing to a skilled workforce, fostering a more engaged citizenry and creating a diverse, multi-generational component in the social and cultural make-up of our state, and in November of 2012 voters passed Proposition 30, signifying state-wide, taxpayer support for maintaining access to this high quality public educational system; and

Whereas, During the recent economic downturn, when California Community Colleges were turning away hundreds of thousands of students due to budget shortfalls, the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, in the context of rationing education, passed regulations to limit the repeatability of coursework in order to focus on and prioritize basic skills, career technical education, and transfer preparation; and

Whereas, Lack of repeatability in performance and skill-building courses has had the unintended consequence of severely limiting the ability of students of the arts (including dance, music, theater, creative writing, and the visual arts) to transfer as majors into advanced programs which select students based on demonstrated performance skills, excellent portfolios, and strong resumes, often developed over years of repeating coursework in order to attain the required higher levels of proficiency needed to transfer to selective four-year programs; and

Whereas, The repeatability regulations raise other barriers for community college students, particularly those enrolled in career and technical education programs, to take a more current version of a course they have already completed in order to update skills, adapt to new technologies or maintain professional competency by requiring that a student complete a petition process and obtain a letter from an employer testifying that the student would indeed benefit from updating his or her professional skills;

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges will continue to support unfettered access to quality public community college education for all Californians, including lifelong learners; and

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges will work with the Consultation Council and the Board of Governors to increase repeatability options needed for student success and access across disciplines in order to provide equal access to a balanced, comprehensive, and high-quality education as ordained in the California Master Plan for Education.