

Modesto Junior College
Academic Senate
Resolution FL06-E
Waste Reduction and Recycling

- Proposed by: Environmental Issues (Green) Committee of the MJC Civic Engagement Project
- Whereas: Recycling for community colleges is mandated by the State of California (AB 75), and Modesto Junior College is required to file an annual report with the State Integrated Waste Management Board on its waste diversion activities; and
- Whereas: The mission of MJC and the Yosemite Community College District includes a commitment to contribute to the social, cultural, and economic development of our communities; and
- Whereas: MJC, as a responsible employer, good neighbor and educational institution has a duty to educate and promote civic engagement through academic discussions and reflection, collaboration with other colleges and community efforts, innovation and modeling of responsible lifestyle choices on the college campus that improve the development of our communities; and
- Whereas: MJC has the opportunity to affect the cultural and social vitality of its service area by providing leadership in maintaining a sustainable lifestyle, which includes the 5 R's of Recycling and saving resources: refusing, reducing, reusing, recycling, and rebuying whenever possible; and
- Whereas: MJC currently recycles cardboard and mixed paper (but not white paper), while other educational institutions in the area have established much more rigorous, comprehensive, and even profitable recycling programs, especially in the realm of paper, cardboard, aluminum, and plastics; and
- Whereas: MJC daily creates huge amounts of both mixed and white paper trash that should be diverted from our waste stream, recycled, and sold to waste management businesses for increased dollars per tonnage of waste; and
- Whereas: Colleges can recycle the great majority of their waste paper products, while saving energy, reducing water usage, abating water/air pollution, reducing solid waste sent to landfills and creating jobs; and
- Whereas: The above considerations relate directly to the obligation of the Academic Senate and the Board of Trustees to reach mutual agreement on institutional planning and budget development.
- Therefore: Be it resolved, that the Academic Senate supports the commitment of sufficient MJC and YCCD resources to research and implement expanded recycling possibilities for materials purchased, consumed, or disposed of, and to improve recycling efforts for mixed and white paper by February 2007.

Therefore: Be it further resolved, that a staff member's current duties be modified, to research, oversee, coordinate, and expand the current recycling program into a more comprehensive effort that will serve as a model to the larger community for decades to come.

First Reading: November 16, 2006

Final Reading: December 7, 2006

Disposition Carried