

Modesto Junior College
Academic Senate
Resolution: SP11-B
MJC Academic Senate Role in Proposed Academic Program Elimination

Proposed by: Senator Allan McKissick

- Whereas:** The Yosemite Community College District and Modesto Junior College anticipate a severe reduction in funding for the 2011-2012 academic year, and the extent of that reduction is expected to necessitate the elimination of viable academic programs and tenure-track faculty positions serving Modesto Junior College's mission, and
- Whereas:** The President of Modesto Junior College has announced that he will present a plan for such eliminations which is designed to accommodate a funding reduction of \$8 million, for the worst of several scenarios identified by the District, and
- Whereas:** The Academic Senate of Modesto Junior College has demonstrated its understanding of the need for a timely response to the funding situation by entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with the College President and directed the Senate Planning and Budget Committee to cooperate with the President in his efforts to develop a plan, and will give the plan careful consideration in the coming weeks, and
- Whereas:** The Academic Senate also recognizes the importance of minimizing the disruptive effect of prolonged uncertainty over which reductions will take place, and that permanent elimination of academic programs and tenure-track faculty positions should not occur under such conditions, and
- Whereas:** It then follows that proposed eliminations should be prioritized by importance to the college mission, to make it clear at the earliest possible time which programs and faculty positions are to be eliminated, and in what order they would be restored as funding to do so becomes available, and
- Whereas:** YCCD Board Policy 4103 requires good faith efforts to reach mutual agreement between the Modesto Junior College Academic Senate and the Board on matters of Institutional Planning and Budget Development and primary reliance on the MJC Academic Senate on matters of Curriculum, unless failure to reach decisions by that approach are deemed by the Board to cause "substantial fiscal hardship," and
- Whereas:** The Modesto Junior College Academic Senate is committed to make every effort to achieve a good faith agreement with the YCCD Board of Trustees on a plan to deal with the fiscal challenges faced by our college.
- Therefore:** **Be it resolved,** that the Modesto Junior College Academic Senate strongly recommends an immediate freeze on hiring new faculty for permanent full-time faculty positions, and

Therefore: **Be it further resolved,** that the Modesto Junior College Academic Senate stands ready to support a responsible plan for dealing with reduced funding, which would include prioritization of programs to be retained should it be possible to do so, and

Therefore: **Be it finally resolved,** that the Modesto Junior College stands ready to assume its responsibilities under Board Policy 4103 in the areas of Curriculum and Institutional Planning and Budget Development as funding becomes available to restore any eliminated curriculum, college programs and faculty positions.

Final Action: The rules were suspended and the resolution was approved for a final reading at the February 17, 2011 MJC Academic Senate meeting.

Disposition: The content of this resolution will be conveyed to the Administration and the Board of Trustees, and Senate leadership with advocate for the official Senate position on these issues.