Proposed by: Barbara Adams, Marcos Garcia, Letitia Miller
Ex Officio: Heather Townsend, Julie Hughes

Whereas: YCCD Board policy 3-8001 states; “public communication shall be accurate, timely and open”, and YCCD procedure establishes that “all publications produced for distribution to the general public, or to students, must comply with relevant laws and regulations and shall be reviewed for legal, grammatical and programmatic accuracy by the responsible administrator... [and] all advertising and recruitment materials must be approved by the appropriate public information office”;

Whereas: Academic awards at Modesto Junior College include but are not limited to associate degrees, certificates of achievement, and skills recognitions;

Whereas: New academic awards typically require approval by the curriculum committee, the regional CTE consortium (if applicable), the district governing board, the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office and the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges;

Whereas: Modified academic awards typically require approval by the curriculum committee, the district governing board, and the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office;

Whereas: Additional changes to the curriculum may take place following curriculum committee approval due to unanticipated requirements of the approving entity;

Whereas: Review, interpretation, and publication of curricular requirements is highly technical and prone to errors of fact or interpretation;

Whereas: The college curriculum is not static and requires expert oversight to implement and publish to ensure the accuracy of information for our students and the public;

Whereas: Students who receive and reference erroneous information from fliers, websites, posters, may suffer unforeseen consequences and delays in achieving their academic goals;

Whereas: The college catalog, catalog addenda and official catalog web pages constitute the college’s contract with the public;

Whereas: Academic award information includes narrative/non-technical, and technical content;
Therefore, the subcommittee moves that:

Promotion of Modesto Junior College academic awards by faculty, departments, and divisions must occur in careful consultation with the Office of Instruction and not until requisite local, regional, district, and state level approvals have been secured, and;

Promotional materials such as posters, webpages, fliers, PDFs developed by the department or division should include promotional and narrative language only, exclude technical curricular requirements, and should link instead to official college catalog information provided by the Office of Instruction on the college website.