Resolution: Designating Low-Cost Textbook Options in the Hartnell College Schedule

Whereas BP and AP 2510 require the governing board of trustees to consult collegially with the Academic Senate on academic and professional matters; and “consult collegially” means that the governing board of trustees develops policies on academic and professional matters through relying primarily upon the advice and judgment of the Academic Senate;

Whereas standards or policies regarding student preparation and success are academic and professional matters;

Whereas the governing board of trustees also approved BP 1200 which states that the vision, mission, and values statements of the Hartnell Community College District serve to guide all planning and decision-making; and the Students First values statement directs Hartnell College to ask, “What impact will the decision have on student access, learning, development, achievement, leadership, and success?” before making decisions;

Whereas textbook affordability is a major component of student preparation and success, because students that cannot afford to purchase the textbook are at risk of failing the course because of inadequate preparation;

Whereas SB 1369 requires California Community Colleges to identify zero cost textbooks in the college schedule, but does not reference low-cost textbook options;

Whereas a textbook that costs $40.00 or less is generally considered low-cost, and can be more affordable than traditional publisher options;

Resolved that textbooks that cost $40.00 or less shall be designated in the Hartnell College schedule as low-cost, so that students can identify classes with affordable textbook options thereby enhancing student preparation and success.

Resolution #19-2

Contact: Lisa Storm, Academic Senate President