

Resolution 18-11

In Support of Our Transgender Students

Whereas, The Academic Senate is the organization whose primary function is to make recommendations with respect to academic and professional matters (Title 5, §53200) and is primarily relied upon for standards and policies regarding student success; and,

Whereas, The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) recently proposed changing the legal definition of gender in federal programs, including in education and health care, to an immutable, biologically-based, male/female binary, determined at birth, a move which runs counter to existing policies, decisions and laws that recognize gender largely as an individual choice and not as permanently defined by the presence of genitalia at birth; and,

Whereas, Such proposed actions would permit gender discrimination in various forms in colleges and universities that receive federal financial assistance, would exacerbate biases against an already heavily marginalized group of our students, and would negatively impact the achievement of our transgender students, who have expressed in both public and private, their anxieties, fears, and concerns for their physical safety and well-being; and,

Whereas community college students in our state are diverse individuals, whose differences not only benefit our free and open society but contribute to the very fabric of who we are as Americans;

Resolved, The Academic Senate reaffirms its commitment, as a representative body of the Mt. SAC faculty, to fostering a diverse, inclusive, and safe learning environment for all students free from discrimination, bullying, intimidation, harassment, and fear; and,

Resolved, The Academic Senate reaffirms the Mt. SAC faculty's commitment to upholding the College Mission Statement's pledge to "serve our community through...advancing civic engagement, enhancing personal well-being, promoting critical thinking" for all students who wish to pursue their educational goals at Mt. San Antonio College; and

Resolved, the Academic Senate encourages Board of Trustees and the College to continue support the work of the College's PRIDE Center through the use of financial, human and other resources to support creating a safe space for our LGBTQ community and their allies.

Submitted by:

Academic Senate Executive Board

1st Reading: November 8, 2018

2nd Reading: Scheduled for November 29, 2018

Provided to AMAC for Notice: December 10, 2018

Provided to Board of Trustees: December 12, 2018