

RESOLUTION OF NO CONFIDENCE IN THE 2011/12 PROPOSED CALENDAR REVISION AND SCHEDULE

WHEREAS, major calendar and schedule adjustments deeply impact the academic and professional matters which California state regulations in Title 5 section 53200 establish as the purview of Academic Senates, including curriculum, educational program development, standards and policies regarding student preparation and success, and processes for institutional planning and budget development; and

WHEREAS, the ECC Statement of Values asserts that “our highest value is placed on our students and their education goals;” and

WHEREAS, student success and retention rates are routinely higher in winter than in fall, spring or summer sessions, and winter sessions provide additional opportunities for students who are transferring in the upcoming fall semester to complete required coursework (summer courses cannot be used for same-year fall transfer); and

WHEREAS, the plan to offer a full fall schedule of classes while simultaneously eliminating winter session and reducing spring and summer classes may further delay student progress towards transfer, degrees and certificates by attracting an untenable number of new students, making it more difficult for all students to enroll in the necessary classes to progress in a timely fashion towards their goals; and

WHEREAS, the plan to eliminate winter session contradicts the faculty and student wishes expressed in a joint resolution, a student petition, and comments during open forums regarding the calendar; and circumvents collegial consultation, given that the administrative decision to present the revised 2011/12 calendar to the Board was made prior to its presentation to the calendar committee on May 4, 2011; and

WHEREAS, the cost-savings estimate of eliminating winter (\$100,000) would be achieved through the closure of student services, potentially resulting in a loss of staff salaries.

RESOLVED, that the ECC Academic Senate has no confidence in the 2011/12 schedule and no confidence in the proposed revisions to the 2010/2011 calendar presented at the Calendar Committee meeting of May 4, 2011; and

RESOLVED, that the ECC Academic Senate requests that a task force, equally representing faculty, staff and administrators, be formed to discuss and approve major changes to the schedule and to develop recommendations regarding major academic calendar changes to the existing Calendar Committee; and

RESOLVED, that the Academic Senate requests that Winter session be maintained and that cuts to sections for the 2011/12 academic year be applied evenly as a percentage across the existing Fall, Winter, Spring and Summer sessions until such time that a task force can be formed to research and recommend schedule and calendar changes.