



## Resolution S2024.04

### Support of Academic Freedom

Moved:

Seconded:

WHEREAS recent legislative proposals are being introduced across the United States that target academic discussions including but not limited to religion, gender and sexuality, racism, including Critical Race Theory, and related issues of inequity in society;

WHEREAS Santa Ana College aims to inspire, transform, and empower a diverse community of learners; maintains a commitment to teaching, learning, and research; and encourages respectful, honest, and courageous discussion of controversial ideas in and outside of the classroom; and we are people of diverse voices and experiences who understand that open and respectful exchange of ideas and perspectives is essential to the pursuit of learning, knowledge, and fact among all members of the college community;

WHEREAS the SAC faculty, per state law ([Assembly Bill 1725](#), line 14, dated Sept.1988 as signed by Gov. Deukmejian), are discipline experts and are responsible for the college curriculum;

WHEREAS the current Rancho Santiago Community College District’s Board Policy (BP4030) and Administrative Regulation (AR4030) affirms the importance of academic freedom to the proper functioning of the college, citing the [American Association of University Professors’ 1940 Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom and Tenure](#) but is outdated;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate recommends updating the Board Policy to reflect the current AAUP statement and [California SR45 Relative to Academic Freedom](#).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that,

1. Faculty are entitled to full freedom in research and publication of the results.
2. Academic Freedom is the right of faculty, regardless of modality, to discuss their discipline and subject.
3. Faculty are members of a learned profession and officers of an educational institution and should be free from institutional censorship or disciplinary action in matters related to their respective discipline.

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4. The Rancho Santiago Community College District, its campuses, its Trustees, and its subsidiaries should (1) endorse a principle of institutional neutrality and objectivity at the District, campus, and departmental levels, ensuring this does not restrict faculty from expressing themselves as individuals; (2) oppose and resist government mandates that would harm the honest pursuit of fact and the cultivation of free inquiry, such as bans on disfavored topics and subjects; and (3) not prescribe any moral or political positions as institutional orthodoxy or treat the failure to endorse such a position as grounds for sanction or exclusion, whether formal or informal.
5. Individual faculty have sole authority and discretion to determine course content and how classes are conducted. Decisions about research and curricular matters are the province of faculty. Faculty in class and conferences with students should aim to foster free inquiry, which entails being intellectually honest and welcoming reasoned disagreement even when dealing with potentially controversial topics, including but not limited to social justice, diversity, equity, cultural expression, and artistic expression; such topics should not be regarded as forms of harm or harassment.
6. Public forums, lectures, student/faculty/district employee interaction, social media, and the multitude of everyday expression that enliven campus life are venues where free speech should be possible. Faculty have a right and duty to defend themselves against external and internal pressures that compromise intellectual freedom.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Academic Senate expects an environment where students and faculty can engage in the exchange of ideas without interference, threat, or coercion. The Academic Senate rejects any effort to curtail academic freedom, the free expression of ideas, and the pursuit of intellectual inquiry.

Date Presented:

Date Passed:

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## Resolution S2024.05

### Support the Offering and Maintaining of Santa Ana College Native History Courses

Moved:

Seconded:

Whereas, the study of Native history is essential for a comprehensive understanding of the diverse cultural, social, and political landscape of California and North America and Native history courses (such as HIST 125) provide invaluable insights into the experiences, perspectives, and contributions of Indigenous peoples, shedding light on their resilience, struggles, and achievements throughout history; and

Whereas, the discontinuation/cancellation of Native history courses would undermine our commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and antiracism within our academic curriculum, depriving students of opportunities to engage with Indigenous perspectives and narratives; and

Whereas, maintaining Native history courses is critical for honoring Indigenous sovereignty, promoting cultural sensitivity, and challenging stereotypes and misconceptions about Native peoples; and

Whereas, student enrollment numbers should not be the sole determinant of course offerings, as certain subjects, including Native history, hold intrinsic value and contribute to the educational mission of our institution;

Be it resolved, that the faculty of Santa Ana College hereby express their strong support for offering the Native history courses in collaboration with Native partners to offer history courses in multiple modalities to run each semester to term irrespective of enrollment as a practice of reparations for the occupation of land and identity and honoring of the history of Native communities;

Be it further resolved, that the faculty call upon the administration to uphold the importance of Native history within our academic curriculum and to allocate necessary resources to ensure the sustainability and accessibility of these courses;

Be it further resolved, that the faculty affirm their commitment to promoting Indigenous education, scholarship, and community engagement, and to fostering a campus environment that respects and celebrates the cultural diversity of all peoples;

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Be it further resolved, that this resolution be communicated to the administration, department chairs, and relevant stakeholders to underscore the faculty's collective commitment to maintaining Native American history courses as an integral part of our educational offerings.

Date Presented:

Date Passed:

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**RSCCD Board of Trustees**: Tina Arias Miller, Ed.D. • David Crockett • John R. Hanna • Zeke Hernandez • Sal Tinajero • Daisy X. Tong • Phillip E. Yarbrough

**Chancellor**: Marvin Martinez • **President, Santa Ana College**: Annabelle Nery, Ph.D



**Resolution S2024.06**

**Endorse the Adoption of the Educational Master Plan as the Santa Ana College Comprehensive Educational Plan (2024-2028)**

Moved:

Seconded:

Whereas, The Educational Master Plan (EMP) is the central planning document at Santa Ana College and establishes goals and objectives to provide focus for future initiatives;

Whereas, A task force of faculty, classified professionals, and administrators met to review institutional and external data, review internal and external scan results, and develop goals and objectives that align with the Board’s adopted strategic directions;

Whereas, Renaming the Educational Master Plan to the Comprehensive Educational Plan aligns with our commitment to decolonizing language and practices within our institution, thereby fostering a more equitable and inclusive learning environment;

Whereas, The adoption of terminology that reflects our values of diversity, equity, and inclusion is essential in promoting a culture of respect, empowerment, and belonging for all members of our educational community;

Resolved, That the Academic Senate of Santa Ana College endorse the renaming of the Educational Master Plan (2024-2028) to the Comprehensive Educational Plan (2024-2028); and

Resolved, That the Academic Senate of Santa Ana College endorses the adoption of the Comprehensive Educational Plan (2024-2028).

Date Presented: May 14, 2024

Date Passed:

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## Resolution S2024.07

### Support Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) Language for all Syllabi

Moved:

Seconded:

Whereas, AB289 (Berman) requires colleges to make revisions to their Satisfactory Academic Progress policies and how that information is communicated to students by the beginning of the 2024-25 academic year; and

Whereas, The guidance for AB289 (Berman) implementation encourages colleges to include language relates to satisfactory academic progress (SAP) and financial aid in course syllabi;

Resolved, That the Academic Senate of Santa Ana College endorses the proposed language on satisfactory academic progress (SAP) and financial aid; and

Resolved, That the Academic Senate of Santa Ana College strongly encourages all faculty to include the following statement

#### ***Satisfactory Academic Progress***

*For financial aid purposes, students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher and complete 67% of their attempted units (which includes all coursework). F, NP, and W grades will lower GPA and/or completion rate. Students not meeting satisfactory academic progress will be notified of an opportunity to appeal in Self-Service. If their appeal is approved, their financial aid will be reinstated. Students must also complete their educational program within a maximum time frame of 150% of the units required to complete that educational program.*

*Example: A student who is registered in a program with 60 required units for completion is eligible for financial aid while attempting their first 90 units.*

*For more information, Santa Ana College's SAP policy can be found at*

*<https://sac.edu/StudentServices/FinancialAid/Documents/SAP%20Policy.pdf>*

in course syllabi beginning Summer 2024.

Date Presented:

Date Passed:

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Chancellor: Marvin Martinez • President, Santa Ana College: Annabelle Nery, Ph.D



## **Resolution S2024.08**

### **Creation of the By-Laws Review Committee**

Moved:

Seconded:

Whereas, The current By-laws of the Academic Senate of Santa Ana College have not been comprehensively reviewed in several years, leading to potential inconsistencies and outdated provisions,

Whereas, The complexity and evolving nature of our the Senate's operations require a thorough examination of the By-laws to ensure they remain effective and relevant,

Whereas, Input from diverse perspectives is essential to identify areas for improvement and modernization of the By-laws,

Whereas, Establishing a dedicated committee for this purpose will facilitate focused discussions, research, and recommendations for amendments to the By-laws,

Resolved, That a By-laws Review Committee shall be formed, comprised of 6-8 faculty members appointed by the Senate President, representing various divisions, experience levels, and backgrounds within the organization,

Resolved, That the By-laws Review Committee shall conduct a yearly comprehensive assessment of the current By-laws, solicit feedback from stakeholders, and propose amendments to the Senate for consideration and approval, aiming to enhance the clarity, effectiveness, and relevance of the By-laws to better serve the organization and its members.

Date Presented:

Date Passed:

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## Resolution S2024.09

### Creation of the Academic Senate Awards for Excellence Committee

Moved:

Seconded:

Whereas, Santa Ana College is committed to recognizing and celebrating the outstanding contributions and achievements of its faculty members,

Whereas, Acknowledging faculty excellence enhances morale, motivation, and a culture of continuous improvement within the college community,

Whereas, The establishment of an Academic Senate Awards for Excellence committee will formalize the process of identifying and honoring faculty members who exemplify excellence in their respective fields,

Whereas, A committee structure chaired by the Academic Senate Vice President of Community Operations with two distinct sub-committees will allow for a comprehensive recognition of faculty accomplishments: the **Distinguished Faculty Award sub-committee**, composed of prior award winners (up to 6), will play a pivotal role in identifying and honoring the new Distinguished Faculty for each year; the **Profiles of Excellence sub-committee**, composed of Senators or their designee (up to 6), will encompass a range of awards including the Adjunct Faculty Award, Creative Expression Award, Career & Technical Education Award, Innovation Award, Professional Achievement Award and any new awards that may be established,

Resolved, That the Academic Senate of Santa Ana College hereby establishes the Academic Senate Awards for Excellence committee with two sub-groups as outlined above,

Resolved, That the Academic Senate Awards for Excellence committee shall annually review nominations from the college community and recommend winners based on a rubric aligned with the awards criteria advertised on the college's website,

Resolved, that the Academic Senate Awards for Excellence committee shall play a crucial role in recognizing and celebrating the impact and excellence of Santa Ana College faculty members.

Date Presented:

Date Passed:

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## Resolution S2024.10

### Adopt Process for Establishing Course Enrollment Maximums

Moved:

Seconded:

Whereas, It is understood that learning occurs in many places on a college campus and that experience and individual attributes of the instructor and students affect learning strategies' efficiency and success;

Whereas, The Santa Ana College Curriculum and Instruction Council recognizes the importance of establishing class enrollment limits and in doing so must consider the curriculum focus, student success, equity, delivery system, mode, method, contractual agreements, types of coursework, industry or transfer requirements, laws and building codes, and administrative guidelines; and

Whereas, Santa Ana College Curriculum and Instruction Council has developed a process by which Course Enrollment Maximum will be established or revised utilizing the curriculum process and technology system;

Resolved, That the Santa Ana College Academic Senate adopt the Curriculum and Instruction Council's recommendation to adopt and implement *Establishing and Modifying Course Enrollment Maximums: Principles, Roles, and Process*.

Date Presented:

Date Passed:

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## **Resolution S2024.11**

### **Adopt Recommended Revised GE Plan A**

Moved:

Seconded:

Whereas, revisions to Associate Degree Regulations, Title 5 § 55060-55062 were adopted and are in effect as of November 16, 2023, necessitating a review revision of local general education patterns;

Whereas, ensuring alignment with current Title 5 requirements is essential to maintain the quality and relevance of our academic programs and to support student success; and

Whereas, Santa Ana College and Santiago Canyon College Curriculum and Instruction Councils' comprehensive review and recommendation process involving faculty and relevant stakeholders developed an updated general education pattern that meets regulatory standards while promoting academic excellence;

Resolved, The Santa Ana College's Academic Senate adopts the Curriculum and Instruction Council's recommendation to adopt and implement the revisions to the Associate Degree General Education - Plan A.

Date Presented:

Date Passed:

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