



Academic Senate of Hawai'i Community College

Resolution #2017-2

A resolution calling for UHCCP #4.203 Institution Set Standards not be enacted as a policy but kept as part of the University of Hawai'i Community Colleges Strategic Plan and goals for the University of Hawai'i Community Colleges System.

Whereas, there are many variables outside the control of the College that influence why students complete courses/graduate/transfer and others do not and

Whereas, the enrollment rate for the College is not a constantly increasing number but actually fluctuates year to year making "70%" the requirement regardless of real enrollment numbers unattainable some years and,

Whereas, the faculty recognize the value of the "open-door" philosophy of the community colleges and the consequent breadth of diversity of the incoming students' needs and challenges and recognize further that the expectation that students pass courses in a uniform number is not consistent with this "open door" philosophy and consequent diversity and

Whereas, this policy presents a conflict between the open-door entrance with a vastly disparate levels of preparation and the expected uniform minimum course exit quota.

Whereas, pressuring faculty to pass a required number of students will create a negative incentive to give 'C' grades instead of earned 'D' or 'F' grades to reach completion, graduate, and transfer numbers consequently having a detrimental effect on student learning and measuring student success and

Whereas, the faculty regard the inflation of course pass rates as indicated in the draft UHCCP #4.203 draft policy as a disservice to the students, providing them with false sense of "success" and diminishes the cumulative learning that occurs within the college and

Whereas, there is no clear set consequences, other than financial penalties, of what will happen to the College and its faculty if minimum rates are not met and

Whereas, the faculty regard the inflation of course pass rates as indicated in UHCCP #4.203 draft policy as having a corrosive effect on the college's reputation by graduating students that have been allowed through courses with a minimal level of competency and

Whereas, the UHCCP #4.203 draft policy creates the illusion of "success" which cannot sustain the weight of the College's reputation in the community



Whereas, UHCCP #4.203 draft policy is really about student achievement, not student learning or success and does not address what the student actually knows upon completion.

Be it resolved, that the Academic Senate of Hawai'i Community College does not support UHCCP #4.203 Institution Set Standards to be enacted as set policy for the University of Hawai'i Community Colleges.

Be it further resolved, that the Academic Senate of Hawai'i Community College does support the goals for student success as written in the Strategic Plan for the University of Hawai'i Community Colleges System and wants to continue to promote high academic standards for its students.

Effective Date: January 27, 2017

Submitted by

Faculty Senate Chair, Sam Giordanengo

Date