

Resolution on the Sovereignty of College-Determined “Cut Scores” for Placement

Whereas community colleges were intended to offer programs and services designed to meet the needs of their local community;

Whereas various factors—such as the students’ socio-economic background, family history of college-level educational experience, and feeder high school student success rates—exist in a particular mix in each college’s service area and impact the level of academic preparation attained by the incoming students of each community college;

Whereas colleges, using the particular educational needs of the students in their service area as part of the data considered to determine faculty hiring patterns, have created and staffed various programs and departments to promote student success;

Whereas, given the above factors, colleges may find it difficult or impossible to quickly change course offerings to match a vastly different student enrollment pattern which could be occasioned by using “cut scores” for placement into appropriate levels of math and English courses developed for a vastly different college and community; therefore

Be it Resolved that the Bakersfield College Academic Senate unequivocally supports independent and locally determined “cut scores” for placement into appropriate levels of math and English for each community college whether or not common assessment instruments are developed and implemented statewide.