

Library, Counseling, & BCSGA Joint Resolution

WHEREAS, in order to create swing space for Counseling & Advising during the CSS building's demolition and rebuild, 75% of the Bakersfield College Grace Van Dyke Bird Library's quiet study space and 1 of the library's 5 group study rooms were annexed, library shelving for approximately 4,800 titles were removed, and Counseling and Advising faculty and staff were moved into student study spaces that do not meet confidentiality requirements for FERPA compliance,

WHEREAS, in Fall 2025, average hourly headcount in the library proper was 119 students (with noon headcounts regularly over 200), while the 5 study rooms were checked out a total of 1,233 times,

WHEREAS, the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges affirms that "library facilities should be large enough to allow students to find space... for a variety of activities, including research, individual or group study, the use of district or personally owned computers, and quiet reading or reflection"¹

WHEREAS, Bakersfield College has no comparable facility to the Library for student study space in size, open hours, or availability to the general student population,

WHEREAS, community college libraries in California are considered instructional spaces for library faculty²,

WHEREAS, collection development is part of the role of California community college library faculty³, which is impacted by shelf removals not requested by library faculty,

WHEREAS, use of the California community college library and hours spent in that library are significant predictors of student success and persistence⁴,

WHEREAS, the nature of Counseling involves discussions with students regarding both academic and personal information, which is protected by FERPA,

WHEREAS, the environment required for Counseling appointments with students should be free from distractions and disruptions,

¹ *Standards of Practice for California Community College Library Faculty and Programs* (Academic Senate for California Community Colleges, 2010), 3, https://www.asccc.org/sites/default/files/Role_of_Library_Faculty.pdf.

² *The Role of the Library Faculty in the California Community College* (Academic Senate for California Community Colleges, 2019), 10, https://www.asccc.org/sites/default/files/publications/Library-paper-fall2011_0.pdf.

³ *The Role of the Library Faculty*, 11.

⁴ *Standards of Practice*, 2

RESOLVED, that the Academic Senate of Bakersfield College support and advocate for a clear timeline for regaining the Library student study space and shelving lost due to the Counseling and Advising move,

RESOLVED, that the Academic Senate of Bakersfield College oppose any further reallocation of library space or use of library space as “swing space” implemented without clearly documented consultation with Library faculty and BCSGA and without documented strategies for mitigating the impact this reallocation may have on Library student services, relevant student services, and student space,

RESOLVED, that the Academic Senate of Bakersfield College oppose future relocation of student service areas without clear documentation of consultation related to the nature of the work provided by the area and environmental requirements to maintain the quality of service for students.

RESOLVED, that the Academic Senate of Bakersfield College support consideration of flexible work arrangements, including rotating remote-work schedules where appropriate, as an interim measure when adequate confidential in-person workspaces are unavailable, provided that student access to counseling and advising services is maintained.

Approved by the Library & Academic Technology Department, 10/19/2026

Approved by the Counseling Department, 10/19/2026

Approved by BCSGA, XX/XX/XXXX