

Resolution in Support of a Mutual Academic Defense Compact

Whereas, recent executive orders and legislative proposals at the federal and state levels threaten the academic and professional integrity of public institutions of higher education by seeking to limit academic freedom, restrict curriculum content, and impose undue political influence over faculty governance and institutional policy.

Whereas, the California Community Colleges system serves over 1.8 million students and is governed through a model of participatory governance grounded in the Title 5 §53200 “10+1” academic and professional matters, including curriculum, academic standards, and policies for faculty roles in institutional governance;

Whereas, an infringement on the academic integrity, autonomy, or governance processes of one college presents a threat to all colleges and undermines the collective mission to serve California’s diverse student population equitably;

Whereas, academic senates and boards of trustees share a responsibility to uphold the mission of the California Community Colleges by safeguarding educational quality, institutional independence, and the rights of faculty and students to teach, learn, and engage in open inquiry;

Resolved, that the Grossmont College Academic Senate affirms its commitment to academic freedom, faculty primacy in curriculum and governance under Title 5, and the collective defense of these principles across the California Community Colleges system;

Resolved, that the Grossmont College Academic Senate calls upon the GCCCD Board of Trustees to endorse and actively participate in the formation of a mutual academic defense compact, pledging collaboration with faculty leaders across the state to uphold the values of academic freedom, shared governance, and institutional integrity.