

Community College Accountability Measures

WHEREAS the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) now requires evidence of achievement of stated student learning outcomes as a condition of accreditation for community colleges and their instructional programs; counseling and student support programs; and library and learning support programs, and

WHEREAS the ACCJC requires that faculty and others directly responsible for student progress toward achieving stated student learning outcomes have, as a component of their evaluation, effectiveness in producing those learning outcomes, and

WHEREAS the 2002 California Master Plan for Education calls for California's colleges and universities to develop a means for assessing the learning of students enrolled in public postsecondary education, and further recommends that the state should bring postsecondary education into an integrated accountability system by developing a set of accountability indicators that are consistent with state policy objectives and institutional missions that would monitor quality and equity in access and achievement of all students in common academic content areas, and

WHEREAS Master Plan implementing legislation includes a provision to seriously limit, by deleting from current law, the rights of the bargaining agent to consult on the definition of educational objectives, and

WHEREAS the determination of learning objectives is an academic and professional matter, while the components of performance review and compensation are collective bargaining issues,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Federation of Teachers direct human and/or fiscal resources to help the American Federation of Teachers community college locals develop policy and contract language to ensure faculty primacy in the determination and use of "student learning outcomes" for evaluation of academic programs, faculty, and support staff, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Federation of Teachers approach the Academic Senate for California's Community Colleges to jointly identify and promote best practices for local Senate/Union collaborations in the determination and use of student learning outcomes and other college accountability measures, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the California Federation of Teachers work vigorously to defeat legislative attempts to diminish the voice of community college faculty in local collective bargaining issues including, but not limited to, the determination of educational objectives, statewide evaluation measures, and compensation criteria.