Resolution: Use of Paraprofessionals at Cuyamaca College

Whereas, in the California Community College system there have been numerous reports of proposals to hire paraprofessionals in counseling roles even though they do not meet the state minimum qualifications for the faculty counseling discipline; and

Whereas, paraprofessionals lack the appropriate education, training, and expertise to help meet students' needs in career preparation, transitioning to four-year institutions, and attaining personal and social education goals, and

Whereas, the intention is to hire paraprofessionals to provide counseling services in relation to student education planning, resulting in students' receiving poor advice on college programs, services and transfer requirements;

Whereas, the use of paraprofessionals at the community college clearly violates section 51018 of Title V; and

Whereas, the use of paraprofessionals also goes against the letter of the law in the California education codes as addressed in section 72620;

Resolved, that the Counseling Department at Cuyamaca College reaffirms the principles in its adopted papers The Role of Counselors in California Community Colleges and Standards and Practices for California Community Colleges"; and

Resolved, that the Counseling Department at Cuyamaca College work with the Governing Board and the administration to not hire or use paraprofessionals in counseling or for counseling type duties including education planning and not to substitute paraprofessionals for experienced, training counseling faculty; and

Resolved that on this day, February 25, 2015 the Cuyamaca Academic Senate adopt this resolution and clearly ask for the support and reaffirmation of the Grossmont - Cuyamaca College District Board.