

**Resolution 2014-19 of the Foothill-De Anza Community College District
Board of Trustees in Support of
Changes to Community College Repeatability Regulations**

Whereas, California community colleges have built extensive depth and breadth of educational programs for over 50 years, responding to the educational needs of their respective communities, contributing to a skilled workforce, fostering a more engaged citizenry and creating a diverse, multi-generational component in the social and cultural make-up of our state, and in November 2012 voters passed Proposition 30, signifying state-wide, taxpayer support for maintaining access to this high quality public educational system;

Whereas, during the recent economic downturn, when California community colleges were turning away hundreds of thousands of students due to budget shortfalls, the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, in the context of rationing education, passed regulations to limit the repeatability of coursework in order to focus on and prioritize basic skills, career technical education, and transfer preparation;

Whereas, lack of repeatability in performance and skill-building courses has had the unintended consequence of severely limiting the ability of students of the arts and human performance (including physical education, dance, music, theater, creative writing, and the visual arts) to transfer as majors into advanced programs which select students based on demonstrated performance skills, excellent portfolios, and strong resumes, often developed over years of repeating coursework in order to attain the required higher levels of proficiency needed to transfer to selective four-year programs; and

Whereas, the repeatability regulations raise other barriers for community college students, particularly those enrolled in career and technical education programs, to take a more current version of a course they have already completed in order to update skills, adapt to new technologies or maintain professional competency; and

Whereas, the repeatability regulations deny access for many adult lifelong learners to regular classes, forcing them into extremely limited community education classes with restricted hour and day availability, causing a dramatic decline in adult lifelong learners at community colleges, and undermining the basic principle of access; and

Whereas, prior to enactment of repeatability constraints, adult lifelong learners enjoyed open access to all regular classes and unlimited repeatability; and

Whereas, residents of this community continue to support the Foothill-De Anza Community College District through a \$750 million bond measure, contributions of approximately \$3 million each year to the Foothill-De Anza Foundation, and service on committees, commissions, boards, and councils;

Resolved, that the Foothill-De Anza Community College District reaffirms its support of unfettered access to quality community college education for all Californians, including adult lifelong learners; and

Resolved, that the Foothill-De Anza Community College District Board of Trustees urges the Board of Governors to amend the repeatability constraints in order to provide equal access to a balanced, comprehensive, affordable, and high-quality education for adult lifelong learners as well as students seeking certificates, degrees, and university transfer.