

MJC Academic Senate Adoption of Resolution 9.11 F15 Oppose External Honors Program

Academic Senate for California Community Colleges

47th Fall Session Resolution

Adopted November 7, 2015

Whereas, The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges has recognized the value of honors programs, encouraged their creation, and been concerned that they equitably serve California's diverse population (20.01 S98, 20.04 F98, 20.04 F99, 03.01 S07, 13.12 F11);

Whereas, A number of presidents at California community colleges with honors programs have been contacted by American Honors, Inc. (AHI), a for-profit company, seeking to bring those existing programs under their corporate control, bypassing the local academic senate, curriculum committees, and existing honors program faculty;

Whereas, Students enrolled in the AHI program pay an average of \$2,800 per year to the company in supplemental tuition and fees for participation in their honors programs,⁸ and the company is reported to be seeking establishment of differential fees in California community colleges⁹; and

Whereas, The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges established its "opposition to any bill that attempts to establish a two-tiered system" (Resolution 6.04 S12) and has resolved to "support legislation and policy directives that limit need-based financial aid packages to public and private nonprofit colleges only" (6.01 S12);

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges oppose the intrusion of external honors programs, including from for-profit organizations, into California community colleges;

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges work with the Chancellor's Office and other system partners to ensure that external honors programs do not intrude into the California community colleges; and

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges encourage local senates to oppose the involvement of external organizations providing honors program opportunities and the insinuation of supplemental fees for honors program participation.

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