

Academic Senate Resolution On Class Size

Whereas, The establishment of class enrollment maximums must consider multiple factors to maintain student success and institutional fiscal viability; and

Whereas, The Academic Senate recognizes that increasing enrollment class sizes generates more Full-Time Equivalent Student (FTES); and

Whereas, The Academic Senate and Curriculum Committee desired standardization of class sizes within departments and across disciplines; and

Whereas, The MSJC Curriculum committee researched and developed a “Class Size” document in accordance with the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC)’s recommended criteria in the adopted Spring 2012 paper titled “Setting Course Enrollment Maximums: Process, Roles, and Principles”; and

Whereas, The MSJC Curriculum Committee developed a “Class Size” document over the course of 18 months in consultation with administrators, discipline faculty, and department chairs based on pedagogical, labor equity, fiscal viability, and health and safety factors; and

Whereas, the MSJC Academic Senate has vetted the Class Size document to ensure effective teaching in the heterogeneous learning environments on our campuses and distance education programs; and

Whereas, California Education Code § 70902 (B) (7) grants to academic senates the “primary responsibility for making recommendations in the area of curriculum and academic standards”;

Resolved, That the MSJC Academic Senate asserts that enrollment class sizes should depend primarily upon those factors and conditions that foster engaged, active learning for student success; and

Resolved, That the MSJC Academic Senate asserts that the “Class Size” document should be the primary tool and source for collective bargaining in regards to class size to ensure the continuation of quality instruction at MSJC.