

## **Academic Senate Resolution in Support of the 50% Law and Faculty Obligation Number (FON) Compliance**

**Whereas**, the 50% Law (Education Code § 84362) mandates that at least 50% of California community college general fund expenditures be allocated to salaries and benefits of classroom instructors, ensuring that instructional quality remains a priority in budgetary decisions; and

**Whereas**, the Faculty Obligation Number (FON) requires community college districts to maintain a state-mandated minimum number of full-time faculty based on enrollment and funding levels, reinforcing the essential role of full-time faculty in student success; and

**Whereas**, Ventura College's Mission Statement affirms that the institution "places students at the center of their learning experience" and is committed to fostering an "anti-racist, liberating, and inclusive environment" while providing degrees, certificates, transfer, and workforce preparation opportunities; and

**Whereas**, Ventura College's Vision Statement and Guiding Principles emphasize the prioritization of students, the creation of a collaborative and inclusive learning environment, and the commitment to integrity, equity, and student-centered solutions; and

**Whereas**, non-compliance with the 50% Law and FON contradicts these institutional commitments by failing to allocate adequate resources toward classroom instruction and faculty hiring, ultimately undermining student success and equitable access to education; and

**Whereas**, Ventura College President Dr. Claudia Lourido-Habib publicly stated in a forum on December 5, 2024 that she has no intention of adhering to the 50% Law, directly contradicting both legal mandates and the college's mission-driven commitment to students; and

**Whereas**, the role of the Executive Team and College President is to ensure that faculty hiring meets legal obligations and that budgetary decisions align with the principles of shared governance and student-centered planning;

**Therefore, be it resolved**, that the Academic Senate formally affirms its strong support for adherence to the 50% Law and Faculty Obligation Number (FON) as legally mandated, and as essential to upholding the integrity of Ventura College's mission, vision, and guiding principles; and

**Be it further resolved**, that the Academic Senate calls on the College President and Executive Team to publicly acknowledge and commit to full compliance with the 50% Law and FON, ensuring that instructional expenditures and faculty hiring align with legal mandates and institutional commitments; and

**Be it further resolved**, that this resolution be communicated to the College President, the Executive Team, the Board of Trustees, and all shared governance committees to reaffirm the role of faculty in institutional decision-making and uphold the principles of transparency, equity, and academic integrity in budgetary and faculty hiring practices.