

Statement of Support for Part-Time Office Hour Parity

Whereas the Academic Senates of California Community Colleges have primacy in academic and professional matters;

Whereas the Ventura College Academic Senate is committed to ensuring that all students receive instruction and support of the highest quality;

Whereas the core functions of teaching include classroom instruction, preparation, grading, and providing students with access to their instructors outside of class time;

Whereas the California Postsecondary Education Commission recognizes that faculty accessibility is a critical component of student learning and success¹;

Whereas equitable student access to faculty is essential to creating an inclusive, high-quality learning environment;

Whereas the California Board of Governors supports the policy that all faculty should be compensated equitably for comparable instructional and out-of-class responsibilities²;

Whereas AB 301³ and subsequent legislation provide district incentives, such as matching funds, to support paid office hours for part-time instructors; and

Whereas the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges encourages local senates to work collaboratively with collective bargaining agents, administration, and trustees to support equitable student access to faculty outside of class, including consideration of compensated office-hour structures where feasible and bargained⁴:

Be it affirmed, that the Ventura College Academic Senate affirms its support for equitable and compensated office hours for all instructors to ensure that every student has meaningful and consistent access to their faculty outside of class time; and

Be it affirmed, that the Academic Senate recognizes faculty compensation is within the scope of collective bargaining, and that this statement is intended to express the Senate's educational and student-success interest in equitable access to instructors outside of class time.

Be it further affirmed, that the Academic Senate encourages continued collaboration among faculty leadership, administration, and bargaining units to develop fair, transparent, and sustainable practices that support faculty accessibility and student success.

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¹[CPEC](Master Plan for Higher Education 2001)

²AB 1752 per Ed Code 87482.4

³Cunneen 1997 per Ed Code Sections 87880-87885)

⁴<https://www.asccc.org/papers/part-time-faculty-principled-perspective>]