



RESOLUTION No. 2016-17-2

AUTHORED BY: Jessie K Avitia, College of Natural Resources and Sciences Representative

REFERRED TO: AS COUNCIL  
ACTION SCHEDULED: November 14, 2016

SUBJECT: An Act support of a Sense of Senate Resolution on Confidential Student Evaluations

WHEREAS, the Associated Students (A.S.) Council of Humboldt State University (HSU) is the single recognized voice for over 8,600 students; and,

WHEREAS, the Mission of the Associated Students of Humboldt State University serves to "assist in the protection of rights and interests of the individual student and the student body," and to "stimulate the educational, social, physical, and cultural well-being of the University community"; and,

WHEREAS, The current system of student evaluation within the CSU, as set forth in section 15.17 of the CSU Collective Bargaining Agreement, 2014-17, is an anonymous system, meaning it is normally impossible for anyone to connect a student with their responses; and an alternative possibility is a confidential system, which allows connection of students with their responses under certain conditions; and

WHEREAS, The anonymous nature of student evaluations can allow for harassment that could create an unpleasant workplace, and allegations which may affect a faculty member's reputation, with no intervention the investigation of possible Title IX violations, and forfeits commonly accepted standards of accountability by HSU Administration; and

WHEREAS, Humboldt State University faculty have been subjected to harassment, gender-specific insults and otherwise abusive language in violation of the Standards for Student Conduct (TITLE 5. California Code of Regulations. 41301); and

WHEREAS, Faculty exposed to harassment and/or foul or abusive language through anonymous student evaluations are caused undue stress, which may have negative impacts on classroom environments and student learning, and may cause faculty to leave HSU; and

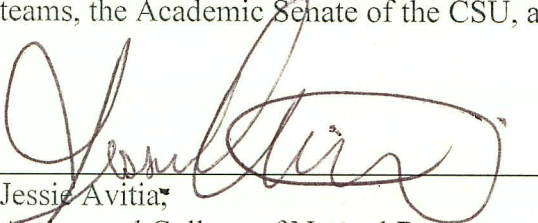
WHEREAS, The anonymous nature of student evaluations prevents the Humboldt State University Administration from pursuing conduct violations unless the language of the evaluation is considered by law enforcement to constitute a threat; and

WHEREAS, Students of HSU have expressed their support for a change from anonymous to confidential evaluations, and a common belief that faculty have the same right as students to feel safe on this campus, now, therefore be it:

**RESOLVED**, That the Associated Student Council of Humboldt State University supports a Sense of the Senate Resolution strongly urging the CFA and CSU to replace CSU's anonymous student evaluation process (CBA Article 15.17) with a confidential student evaluation process, and encouraging the CFA and CSU to make the following change in the next contract;

**RESOLVED**, That the Associated Student Council of Humboldt State University strongly urges the CFA and CSU to adopt confidential student evaluations solely to permit campuses to address alleged violations of University policy, and that student evaluation continue to be guided by the ideals of receiving constructive criticisms of faculty teaching. A student's identity shall be unveiled by appropriate administrators only when necessitated by alleged violations of University policy.

**RESOLVED**, That this Resolution be forwarded to the University Senate at HSU, President Lisa Rossbacher, Vice President of Student Affairs Peg Blake, Provost Alexander Enyedi, the HSU Chapter of the California Faculty Association, the leaders of the CFA and CSU bargaining teams, the Academic Senate of the CSU, and the Associated Students of the CSU.



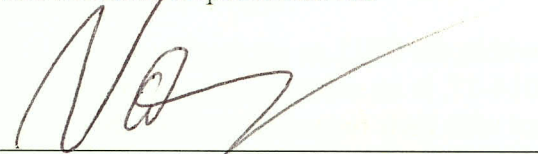
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Jessie Avitia,  
Author and College of Natural Resources  
and Sciences Representatives



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Jonah Platt,  
AS President



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Vanessa Cota,  
Legislative Vice President