

**Resolution on Review of  
the Proposed Masters in Social Work  
(#04-03/04-EP)**

- WHEREAS, The faculty of the Social Work Department have put forward a proposal for a new Masters in Social Work program (MSW) which clearly addresses current local needs and involves a significant professional and financial collaboration between local agencies and the university to initiate this program; and
- WHEREAS, The Masters in Social Work program provides graduating Humboldt State University students and local professionals with an opportunity to complete professional preparation necessary for licensure that currently is not available in this region except through distance education from distant sources; and
- WHEREAS, This proposal comes to the Humboldt State University Academic Senate at a time when there are no additional funds for programs, indeed funding is being cut from established programs; and
- WHEREAS, The ratio of undergraduate students graduating to graduate students projected for the program (approximately 32:20) is a very high yield rate so that once the current community need has been addressed, it will be necessary to attract graduate level students from outside the region; and
- WHEREAS, The Social Work Department faculty have worked very closely with the accrediting organization to ensure that the proposed program will meet accreditation requirements, but to become accredited and maintain accreditation the program will require faculty, staff and library resources not currently available to the Social Work Department; therefore be it
- RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University applaud the stellar work of the faculty of the Social Work Department and the community partners who have collaborated in the design of this innovative MSW program; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University commend the quality curriculum put forward in the MSW proposal; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University appreciate the commitment of funds offered to the Social Work Department by the Humboldt County Children and Families Commission and the Del Norte County DHSS for start up of the MSW program; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University express concern that the reallocation of faculty lines from the undergraduate program to the graduate program may compromise the accreditation status or weaken the Bachelor in Social Work (BSW) program during the start up period of two to three years if the MSW is initiated; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University express concern that diverting funds to support the creation of a new program at this time of drastically reduced resources could be detrimental to the efforts being made to maintain the quality of existing programs; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University recommend that the MSW proposal go forward, on the condition that the Provost budgets sufficient funds to ensure that the MSW program can obtain and maintain accreditation without detriment to other academic programs.