

Resolution for Academic Senate support of the STEM Center

WHEREAS, the STEM Program was initiated in the spring semester of 2013 through the initiatives of the \$4.3M federal STEM grant awarded to the college in 2011, and

WHEREAS, The STEM Program was a successful STEM grant initiative that provided STEM students with STEM activities, specialized STEM counseling, STEM related skill building workshops, STEM mentoring from an expert in the field, research internships, STEM specific fieldtrips, priority B registration, STEM seminars, and a college based culture focused on STEM as its foundation, and

WHEREAS, through a careful review of program data, Excelencia in Education nationally recognized the STEM program in a 2014 competition identifying it as a program “at the forefront of advancing educational achievement for Latino Students in higher education.”, and

WHEREAS, in spring 2017 an administrative decision was made to discontinue the STEM program, displacing approximately 90 students, with no program discontinuance plan, notice to students, or consultation with faculty, and

WHEREAS, in spring 2017 an administrative action was taken to deny the consideration of funding proposals for the program, endowment funds designated for related events were reallocated, and planning and program review requests were dropped in the prioritization process to ranks in which they would not be considered.

WHEREAS, as of fall 2019, the stem center has experienced recent and substantial growth in the number of students it serves,

Therefore, be it RESOLVED, that the college continue its support for the STEM program; complete with funding opportunities, resources, and other necessary support to preserve the STEM Center role as a *learning center* as well as a resource center.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that administration respect the processes related to academic and professional matters, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the oversight of the STEM program rely primarily on the advice and recommendations of faculty qualified in STEM fields.