HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY
University Senate

Resolution on the Student Evaluations of Teaching in Low Enrollment Courses

#29-12/13-FAC – April 2, 2013 – 2nd Reading

RESOLVED: That the University Senate of Humboldt State University recommends to the President that course sections enrolling three or fewer students be exempted from the requirement for student evaluations, and be it further

RESOLVED: That thesis courses (numbered 490 or 690), comprehensive examination courses (numbered 491 or 691), baccalaureate and master’s project courses (numbered 492 or 692), senior and master’s field, applied, and directed research course (numbered 495 or 695), and independent study courses (generally numbered 199, 299, 399, 499, 599, 699, or 799) also be exempted from the requirement for student evaluations, and be it further

RESOLVED: That faculty teaching courses exempted from the requirement for evaluation under this resolution be permitted to request student evaluations of exempted courses provided steps to ensure student anonymity are taken, and be it further

RESOLVED: That this policy become effective immediately upon approval by the President.

RATIONALE: The new Collective Bargaining Agreement mandates the evaluation of all courses but also mandates that student anonymity be protected in the course evaluation process. In small course sections, these two requirements are at odds. This change would generally protect student anonymity, by exempting very small courses enrolling three or fewer students from mandatory course evaluations.

University Senate: PASSED, 04/02/13
President Richmond: APPROVED, 04/02/13