AS YOU SEE IT

Cabrillo professors very concerned

Just a clarification about “repeatability” issues affecting Cabrillo students. Though we faculty are concerned about the lifelong learners having access to our “ensemble” courses, we are more concerned with the repeatability constraints being enforced on our full-time, degree-pursuing, transfer-oriented students. Limiting the number of times these students can take a specific class or a combination of classes within a so-called “family” of classes limits that student to four semesters in a field they are majoring in. They cannot get the proper amount of units for a transferable portfolio or resume, nor a sufficient expertise in a discipline requiring practice, practice, practice.

It is the new state mandates in what is so erroneously called the Student Success Act that must be reconsidered. From students needing to repeat basic skills classes, to work experience units to performance classes and studio arts, we faculty are not just concerned, we are rather frantic. We are asking for community support to contact the representatives who can challenge this mandated anti-educational vision of college. Educational institutions are not business models; the state of California is probably inadvertently tearing apart the community college mission through a poorly developed one-size-fits-all master plan. Continuing a course of study in order to excel in it so that a transfer can be made to a four-year university should be a primary goal, not punishable by lack of repeatability in a discipline that needs disciplined practice and expertise.

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