

County Community College
Michael J. Grant Campus

Academic Assembly

## **Resolution 2019-02 [01]**

**Authorizing the Formation of an Ad-hoc Committee**

**on Student Retention**

**Whereas** the Michael J. Grant campus has experienced enrollment and retention declines in the 2018-2019 academic year; and

**Whereas** the unexpected enrollment drops have an effect on the financial health of the College, and can affect the College’s ability to fulfill its academic mission; and

**Whereas** the Assembly needs to understand the many factors that contribute to students’ decisions to enroll and return; and

**Whereas** the Assembly would like to examine opportunities for initiatives and reforms at the Grant campus and the College; be it therefore

**Resolved** that the Grant Campus Academic Assembly shall establish an ad-hoc Committee on Student Retention—with the membership and charge detailed in the attached supporting document— for a term starting immediately and terminating at the end of Spring 2020 semester unless the Assembly votes to change the term or status of the Committee; and be it further

**Resolved** that the Committee on Student Retention shall present its report to the Executive Committee no later than April 23, 2019, to allow for discussion at the May 7, 2019 Assembly Meeting; and be it further

**Resolved** that the Executive Committee shall consider at the end of Spring 2019 semester whether to recommend establishing a standing Student Retention Committee of the Assembly.

Passed [44-2-1] on February 26, 2019

**Background**

The Michael J. Grant campus has experienced enrollment and retention declines in the 2018-2019 academic year. Some of the declines in enrollment were expected, the result of smaller population of high school and traditional college age students in Suffolk County. The magnitude of the decline in enrollment may be larger than expected, and the worsening retention rate is exacerbating the trends in enrollment. Unexpected enrollment drops have an effect on the financial health of the College, and can affect the College’s ability to fulfill its academic mission.

This proposal calls for an ad-hoc committee to examine all possible factors that may contribute to enrollment and retention issues at the Grant campus and the College. It should be a group that can hold discussions with different areas of the College to help the Assembly understand the many factors that contribute to students’ decisions to enroll and return. We should also examine opportunities for initiatives and reforms at the Grant campus and the College.

**Charge**

The ad-hoc Committee on Student Retention shall be charged with researching any and all issues that affect enrollment and retention at the Grant campus and the College. The Committee shall present a report of its findings to the Assembly that shall include:

* A description of the environment for community college enrollment in Suffolk County.
* An account of chronic factors that may affect retention.
* An account of new factors that may affect retention.
* An examination of student expectations and experiences that may affect retention.
* An examination of structural issues at the College that affect enrollment, retention, and the financial consequences of enrollment surprises.
* An account of suggestions, proposals, and plans from all areas of the College to address current enrollment, retention, and budgetary issues.
* A set of possible paths the College can take to put itself on firm footing for the future.

**Membership**

Membership of the ad-hoc Committee on Student Retention shall be composed of interested volunteers from the Grant Campus Academic Assembly.