

## Academic Senate Resolution

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**Title: ASR-05-21 75/25 Full-Time Faculty**  
**Author/Committee: Nate Donahue/Legislative**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Read/Vote: 5-4-21/Yea: 53, Nay: 0, Abstain: 0**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Read/Vote: 5-18-21/Yea: 48, Nay: 0, Abstain: 0**  
**Approval Date: 5-18-21/Yea: 48, Nay: 0, Abstain: 0**

*Whereas* SMC's top strategic objective for 2017-2022 is to "close the gaps in educational outcomes among student groups" by, among other actions, "[maintaining] an innovative, responsive, and inclusive academic environment, curricular programs, learning strategies, and services";

*Whereas* the strict definition of "distance education" as asynchronous no longer seems fit for purpose given the innovations, adaptations, and opportunities developed while teaching and learning remotely during the pandemic;

*Whereas* student survey results indicate that 48% of students prefer a mix of synchronous and asynchronous online classes, with 14% preferring synchronous online classes as we move into a post-COVID-19 context;

*Whereas* several departments have expressed that for online classes, synchronous delivery is pedagogically critical and supports student success;

*Whereas* faculty survey results indicate that 78.5% of faculty prefer a mix of on-ground and online working conditions; and

*Whereas* the Distance Education Committee will provide the SMC community with information on best practices for synchronous online teaching;

*Be it resolved* that Santa Monica College should broaden our definition and practice of distance education.