

Resolution to Create a Special Advisory Committee on Affordable Housing for New Faculty

WHEREAS: A recent study conducted by the UCSC administration and the Faculty Welfare Committee* identified affordable housing as the single greatest concern for the faculty. The study noted that " results of the survey indicate a near consensus of opinion that the housing crisis in Santa Cruz is acute." Almost 90% of respondents (100% of junior respondents) considered housing to be the most important issue for junior faculty, with 86% of respondents rating it "extremely severe" or "severe." Without some form of assistance, most new faculty members simply cannot afford to live within a reasonable distance of campus. This crisis has reached the point where many faculty members from all divisions are considering leaving UCSC; some already have. It is also becoming a major recruiting issue and a serious morale issue for the entire University community.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: A new Special Committee of the Academic Senate be created as follows:

Special Advisory Committee on Affordable Housing for New Faculty

The Committee shall study and report to the Committee on Faculty Welfare, the Committee on Land Use and Building Development, and the Academic Senate:

- on the current and projected numbers of UCSC faculty who require housing;
- on the current and projected costs of faculty housing, both on and off campus;
- on the issues faced by UCSC faculty in obtaining affordable housing;
- on whether campus housing programs will meet the needs of faculty, most especially new faculty
- on the nature and consequences of existing policies for allocation of available housing resources on campus and provide advice as to whether any changes are needed;
- on campus planning for new faculty housing, providing input from and about intended residents;
- on finding, developing, and creating new solutions to increase resources to enable faculty to obtain adequate housing;

the Committee shall also:

- canvass other organizations outside our campus including U.C. campuses, U.C. Systemwide Committees, and other universities, as well as UCSC administrators, committees, and organizations, as necessary to gather information so as to complete the tasks above;
- provide regular reports to assist and advise the Committee on Faculty Welfare, The Committee on Land Use and Building Development, and the Academic Senate as a whole.
- coordinate its information gathering activities with the Planning and Budget Committee, the Chair and Vice Chair of the Academic Senate, and the Chancellor and Provost.

The membership of the Committee shall consist of up to eight Senate members. At least three members shall be untenured.

The term of the Committee begins on 30 May 2001 and ends on 31 August 2003 unless otherwise authorized by the Santa Cruz Division of the Academic Senate.

* Faculty Recruitment and Retention at UCSC: Results of a Joint Administration/Senate Information-Gathering Effort, January 2001 [<http://senate.ucsc.edu/cfw/Housing.Rpt.Jan01.html>]

Respectfully Submitted:

COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES

Murray Baumgarten
Sandra Faber
Kathy Foley
Lincoln Taiz
Shelly Errington, Chair
May 29, 2001