

## **Resolution Urging Consultation and Collaboration around HEERF Funding**

Whereas the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II (HEERF II) is authorized by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA), Public Law 116-260, signed into law on Dec. 27, 2020. In total, the CRRSAA authorizes \$81.88 billion in support for education, in addition to the \$30.75 billion expeditiously provided last spring through the Coronavirus Aid, Recovery, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, Public Law 116-136<sup>1</sup>;

Whereas the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III (HEERF III) is authorized by the American Rescue Plan (ARP), Public Law 117-2, signed into law on March 11, 2021, providing \$39.6 billion in support to institutions of higher education to serve students and ensure learning continues during the COVID-19 pandemic<sup>2</sup>;

Whereas Laney College has been allocated \$8,854,083 in HEERF II funding, with a minimum of \$1,656,735 as direct aid for students; the college has been allocated \$15,664,000 in HEERF III funding, with a minimum of \$7,832,000 as direct aid for students;

Whereas the colleges are responsible for managing their allocations, and institutional planning and budget are part of the senate's 10+1 purview;

Whereas there was little consultation with faculty, outside of a request for proposals, for previous CARES funding;

Whereas the CARES expenditures presented at the May 18 Laney College Faculty Senate meeting were not made with faculty consultation;

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/crrsaa.html>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/arp.html>

Be it resolved that we request a more rigorous planning process, as well as transparency, around spending HEERF funds in addition to the survey that already exists;

Be it resolved that our campus create a Request for Proposals (RFP) process for faculty to request funding that falls within expenditure guidelines;

Be it further resolved that the administration provide regular updates to the Laney College Faculty Senate about expenditures during the Fall 2021 semester.