



**Resolution No.:** 2020.02

**Date Introduced:** December 1, 2020

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## **RESOLUTION REGARDING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND ITS IMPLICATIONS**

WHEREAS, the Associated Students of Moorpark College (ASMC) Board of Directors recognizes the severity of the COVID-19 global pandemic and its adverse impact on the world, including the inability of Moorpark College to fully return to campus for the 2020-2021 school year;

WHEREAS, the ASMC Board of Directors declares in-person, on-campus learning essential;

WHEREAS, the ASMC Board of Directors recognizes the significant damages staying at home has done to students' productivity levels, mental health, and social communities, as demonstrated by a study by the National Center for Biotechnology Information, which examined 195 college students and recorded the following: 71% indicated increased stress and anxiety from the COVID-19 pandemic, 86% reported disruption to sleeping patterns, 86% reported decreased social interactions, and 82% reported increased concern of academic performance<sup>1</sup>;

WHEREAS, the ASMC Board of Directors recognizes that many schools/colleges have safely opened across the country to allow students to learn on-ground;

WHEREAS, the ASMC Board of Directors is in favor of increasing the amount of hybrid and socially distanced, on-ground classes for the spring 2021 semester to give students the opportunity to learn on campus, similar to those offered to faculty by other institutions such as Rider University (Lawrence Township, New Jersey)<sup>2</sup>;

WHEREAS, including more students on campus will increase the number of full-time equivalent students and provide more incentive for students to purchase academic resources at the Moorpark College Bookstore, thus increasing revenue;

WHEREAS, advocating for a safe return to campus is in no way dismissing the students that must stay home for medical reasons because there will still be fully remote options;

WHEREAS, Moorpark College should offer more mask-mandated, socially distanced classes on campus as an option for every student, similar to California Lutheran University's hybrid courses that comply with guidelines by limiting capacity to 25% for indoor lectures<sup>3</sup>;

WHEREAS, the ASMC Board of Directors advocates for a similar opening to California Lutheran University as they have only seen 21 cases of COVID-19 since March 1, 2020, with a 100% recovery rate<sup>3</sup>;

WHEREAS, the ASMC Board of Directors recognizes that Moorpark College does not have on-campus living, which has been identified as a primary risk associated with colleges reopening and transmission rates increasing<sup>4</sup>;

WHEREAS, Moorpark College should operate with more hybrid and in-person courses for spring 2021 if it is in the "Red Tier," complying with Ventura County guidelines<sup>5</sup>;

**THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED**, the ASMC Board of Directors plans to play an active role in preparing the campus to be as safe as possible while adapting to changing guidelines to identify ways to safely reintroduce more students on campus;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the ASMC Board of Directors calls upon Moorpark College administration to increase the number of students and classes on campus for the spring 2021 to the maximum number possible while complying with guidelines.

*Citations:*

1: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7473764/>

2: <https://www.rider.edu/resolved-and-ready/academics>

3: <https://www.callutheran.edu/know/updates/index.html?id=14135>

4: <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/08/24/us/college-university-reopening-coronavirus.html>

5: <https://www.vcoe.org/coronavirus>

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**Date Adopted:** December 1, 2020

**Board Vote:** 10-0-0; passed unanimously



David Katz, President  
ASMC Board of Directors



Gasia Benlian, Vice President  
ASMC Board of Directors