

## **DRAFT Resolution for Sustained Dialogues at Foothill College**

**Whereas**, the Foothill College Academic Senate has determined that it is outside our purview to discuss geopolitics during Senate meetings; AND

**Whereas**, the schedule and format of Academic Senate meetings do not provide sufficient time or space to adequately address nuanced conversations about political or cultural current events; AND

**Whereas**, there exists a significant desire among faculty, staff, and students to engage in these discussions; AND

**Whereas**, Foothill College strives to be a space where all opinions can be shared, discussed, and debated in an emotionally and physically safe and collegial manner; AND

**Whereas**, the safety of students, faculty, and staff is within the purview of the Senate and can be enhanced by providing conscious and appropriate spaces to engage in difficult conversations in a collegial and respectful manner; therefore be it

**Resolved**, That the Foothill College Academic Senate shall create a series of meetings to facilitate ongoing and collegial discussions of challenging topics that arise throughout the school year, with mechanisms for any Foothill stakeholder to recommend topics; AND

**Resolved**, That the Senate shall partner with the Sustained Dialogue Institute to receive proper training in the facilitation of, and engagement in, discussions of a controversial nature; AND

**Resolved**, That the Senate shall allocate funds totaling no less than \$1,000 annually from member dues to establish no fewer than two scholarships supporting students directly affected by conflict (to be determined by essay submission to a committee); AND

**Resolved**, That the Senate shall allocate an additional \$1,000 annually from member dues to support the meetings, to include facilities, marketing efforts, community outreach, and the securing of speakers or other support as necessary; AND

**Resolved**, That the Senate shall publicly recognize the right and need for individuals and bodies within this campus to speak their minds as a part of our mission to serve diverse learners and equip students with critical thinking skills to address complex societal challenges; AND

**Resolved**, That the Senate shall call upon other bodies within College shared governance to similarly support these endeavors, both financially through matching funds and through logistical and other support.