

## Governing Board of The Peralta Colleges Resolution

### Resolution to promote a Paperless Society with The Peralta Colleges

Whereas, it is recognized that the homo sapiens aboard the planet earth are consuming our forests at an accelerating and alarming rate that has, and will continue to have, a deleterious effect upon our atmospheric climate and air quality that is equal to or exceeding the more infamous “carbon footprint” syndrome.

Whereas, it is further recognized that paper printed communications have become a significant factor in the consumption of our timberland.

Whereas, it is further recognized that there is a tremendous cost associated with the printing, transmission, storage and ultimate disposal of printed materials that far outweigh the associated benefits to society as a whole and to The Peralta Colleges in particular.

Whereas, it is further recognized that the adverse impact upon personnel staffing necessary to print, transmit, control, account for, store, retrieve and ultimately dispose of printed paper products is a tremendous drain on our allocation of very scarce resources.

Whereas, it is further recognized that printed material transmitted to and received by all elements of The Peralta Colleges is measured in feet per week per employee, most of which is never read and virtually zero is subject to human recall ninety-six hours after receipt.

Whereas, it is further recognized that there is a “Peanut’s blanket” affliction (from the character in the Lucy cartoon series) that associates the feel of the touch and with an increased sense of security.

Whereas, it is further recognized that we can no longer afford the personnel staffing within The Peralta Colleges that accomplish little more than pushing paper around.

It is further recognized that The Peralta Colleges have invested an enormous amount of taxpayer dollars into information technology and the return on that investment has been very meager, if at all. In fact, a thesis could be put forth and successfully defended that would conclude that our administrative costs have ballooned and that we have experienced a negative return on investment (ROI). This must change and the time is now. We are experiencing a dramatic reduction in revenues and the resources that we allocate to areas away from in-classroom, faculty compensation must be significantly reduced.

It is further recognized that the compilation, transmission, consumption, storage and disposal by electronic means is dramatically more expeditious, effective, efficient and controllable when compared to the printed method of communication.

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Governing Board and the entire management and administrative staff of The Peralta Colleges will assume a leadership role by setting in place a measureable goal to reduce the consumption of printed material by 90% within the next twelve months.

Be it further resolved that the strategic planning process of The Peralta Colleges will incorporate highly specific and measureable goals to reduce the production, transmission, consumption and storage of printed material throughout the entire Peralta Colleges.

Be it further resolved, that the District Academic Senate be strongly encouraged to assume a leadership role in incorporating a new culture among our students such that they will not only blend into the changing and evolving methodology of corporate America, but become strong advocates, and a vehicle for change, in a manner not unlike the missionary zeal that has fostered substantial and beneficial changes in our behavior within and to other aspects of our environment. We are, in fact, called upon to be the stewards of our environment. We must now make the mental and emotional transition that allows us to honestly assume the mantle that that title conveys.

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Elihu M. Harris, Chancellor  
Secretary, Governing Board  
THE PERALTA COLLEGES

