



ASSOCIATED STUDENTS *of the* **UNIVERSITY OF PUGET SOUND**

Resolution Endorsing a B.A. in Liberal Arts from the University of Puget Sound for Students in the Freedom Education Project Puget Sound at Washington Corrections Center for Women

Passed September 28, 2017

WHEREAS, The Associated Students of the University of Puget Sound (ASUPS) core values are Equity, Justice, Community, Accessibility, and Transparency,

WHEREAS, The University's Diversity Strategic Plan states under its Community Connections and Engagement goal that the University will "continuously work to develop, strengthen, remake and repair relationships with diverse constituencies from Tacoma and the broader regions, and to build mutually beneficial collaborations that promote just transformation and further educational and civic aims of the campus and broader community." And this program furthers said goal.

WHEREAS, the name of this resolution shall be named Resolution Endorsing a B.A., in Liberal Arts from the University of Puget Sound for students in the Freedom Education Project Puget Sound at Washington Corrections Center for Women,

WHEREAS, Freedom Education Project Puget Sound (FEPPS) provides women incarcerated in the Washington Corrections Center for Women, "a rigorous accredited college program to create pathways to educational opportunity after women are released from prison,"

WHEREAS, the goal of FEPPS is to increase women prisoners' economic and personal empowerment, contribute to family stability, and reduce recidivism through college education,

WHEREAS, Professors Tanya Erzen (Religion and Gender Studies), Priti Joshi (English), Seth Weinberger (Politics) and Robin Jacobson (Politics) received a Burlington Northern grant to develop a Liberal Arts BA major and curriculum in summer 2016,

WHEREAS, Tanya Erzen and Seth Weinberger presented this proposal to the faculty senate at the end of April 2016,

WHEREAS. The Mellon Foundation is interested in investing in higher education in prison in Washington through a grant to the Simpson Center for the Humanities and wants to discuss the possibility of supporting a BA program and statewide consortium for higher education in prison (Freedom Education Project Puget Sound Annual Report 2016-17),

WHEREAS, ASUPS continues to support the FEPPS program by paying for the class' transportation fees like the Narrows Bridge Toll .

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Senate of the Associated Students of the University of Puget Sound:

THAT, it fully supports the creation of a B.A. in Liberal Arts program from the University of Puget Sound for Students in the Freedom Education Project Puget Sound at the Washington Corrections Center for Women.

THAT, it calls upon the University of Puget Sound Board of Trustees to lend its full support in the creation of this program.

THAT, it calls upon the Full Faculty Senate and the Staff Senate to endorse the creation of the program.

THAT, it will continue to support the FEPPS program in any way it can.