WHEREAS, the State of California continues to address a massive budget crisis without sufficient revenue to support necessary expenditures and hampered in decision-making by the two-thirds majority required to approve a budget and new taxes, and

WHEREAS, California Community Colleges continue to experience an ever growing demand for educational programs and services; and

WHEREAS, during the 2009-10 budget year, the State of California, reduced by hundreds of million of dollars the funds the State allocates for the operation of community colleges; and

WHEREAS, the California Community Colleges are the only segment of the State’s higher education system for which revenue generated by student tuition and fees is not retained and controlled by the institutions whose students pay the tuition and fees; and

WHEREAS, Ohlone College has seen its revenue reduced by over $4.5 million, including a $1.4 million “workload” adjustment in instructional apportionment revenue, and without COLA or other sources to mitigate annual inflationary costs; and

WHEREAS, the revenue impact has been exacerbated by the State’s deferrals of payment to the local districts; and

WHEREAS, Ohlone College has been forced to freeze or eliminate over 51 positions, which negatively affects programs and services; and

WHEREAS, Ohlone College has been forced to cut over 500 class sections at a time when enrollment demand is at its highest level due to unemployment and other economic factors; and

WHEREAS, Ohlone College plays a vital role in the economy and welfare of the region; and

WHEREAS, the California Community Colleges know best how to use effectively the revenue generated by student enrollment fees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Governing Board of Ohlone College, its President, and its staff will work with interested parties in the community and in the State to advocate for a balanced approach to resolve State budgetary problems that affect the delivery of high-quality education in our District; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Governing Board will work with interested parties to advocate for a fair and sensible policy on student enrollment fees; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees will work with interested parties to advocate for a simple legislative majority to replace the two-thirds supermajority in the California Legislature for purposes of passing a State budget and taxes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Governing Board will advocate for local retention and control of all revenue generated by any increase in student enrollment fees and that new revenue from any increase in student enrollment fees will not offset base apportionment revenue.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 10th day of March 2010, by the Governing Board of Ohlone College.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

____________________________________
Secretary of the Board of Trustees of Ohlone Community College District of the County of Alameda and the State of California