



**A RESOLUTION TO:** Promote stability, commitment, and investment for Modesto Junior College by having the Board of Trustees and Chancellor Dr. Henry Yong not only provide, but to carry out longer presidential contracts.

**WHEREAS,** Modesto Junior College has had 16 presidents since 2000; and

**WHEREAS,** the Yosemite Community College District's latest five-year plan promises quality staff and the retention of employees that reflect the diverse populations that are served across the district<sup>1</sup>; and

**WHEREAS,** the sudden yet very much expected vacancy of yet another sitting Modesto Junior College President signals for a need to change and improve the hiring process; and

**WHEREAS,** studies show that a stable college president influences retention rates and overall academic effectiveness<sup>2</sup>; and

**HAVING CONSIDERED,** that the latest Modesto Junior College President Dr. Santanu Bandyopadhyay was representative of the type of leadership students need and consequently benefit greatly from; and

**MINDFUL,** it is imperative for the 18,000 students of Modesto Junior College to have sound, stable, and strong leadership and representation at the presidential level; and

**EMPHASIZING,** that the reasons behind the decisions to refuse extension of contracts are largely kept behind closed doors by the Board of Trustees and Chancellor Dr. Henry Yong; and

**BEARING IN MIND,** how irresponsibly expensive it has been for the Board of Trustees and Chancellor to continue paying out presidential contracts; and

**TAKING NOTE,** that the millions of dollars wasted on paying out presidential contracts could have instead been allocated to meet the needs of 18,000 students through investment in Modesto Junior College's facilities, professors, counselors, programs, benefits, and many more; and

**STRESSING,** short term presidencies do not allow for a person to cultivate close connections with the community they are serving; and

**RECOGNIZING,** short term presidencies do not provide adequate opportunity or space for the President to feel supported by the district; and

**TAKING INTO ACCOUNT,** that the YCCD's track record of short term presidencies does not provide incoming presidents the confidence to fully commit to MJC and their position; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** the incoming president should be someone who prioritizes investment in what benefits the students; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** the Associated Students of Modesto Junior College urges the Board of Trustees and Henry Yong to give their vote of stability, commitment, and investment for the incoming president by offering a contract of sufficient length for a president to cultivate connections and growth for the students and employees at Modesto Junior College.

1. <https://www.yosemite.edu/chancellor/Five%20Year%20Plan%202016-2021.pdf>
2. Whistle, Wesley, "Do College Presidents Matter? An Analysis of the Effects of College Presidents on Retention and Graduation Rates" (2014). *MPA/MPP/MPFM Capstone Projects*. 28.  
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