Time Block Resolution

Whereas, there has been a lack of flexibility with the scheduling of four and five-unit classes. (For example, a class has to start exactly at 8:00 a.m. and cannot start at 8:10 a.m.)

Whereas, students and faculty do not have as many day options. There is one less day block for each of the four and five-unit classes. Some students and faculty have difficulties with 8:00 a.m. classes when children have to be dropped off and cannot arrive on time to campus. Thus, eliminating an additional day block for that population.

Whereas, there is a great deal of passing time for the four and five-unit classes. For a four-unit class, the passing time is 20 minutes and for a five-unit class, it is 25 minutes which is not enough time to have a faculty office hour due to limited time and possibly not meeting the students' needs if there are multiple students wanting to visit in that short period.

Whereas, office hours get pushed later into the afternoons especially for faculty that teach consecutive classes; therefore, fewer students visit because the usually have work or other obligations in the afternoons.

Be it resolved, the Academic Senate of Bakersfield College requests that four and five-unit classes work within the current blocks, but with the option of not starting at the common start time. The time block would end no later than 10 minutes before the starting time of the next block and therefore not conflict with other classes on campus. (Example: a five-unit class that has a common start time of 8:00 a.m., could start as late as 8:15 am and finish at 9:25 a.m., giving 10 minutes of passing time for the 9:35 a.m. block).

Be it resolved, the Academic Senate of Bakersfield College seek a long-term solution and create an ad-hoc committee to investigate time blocks at other colleges that are similar in size and demographics. The committee would work with administration to find a schedule that best meets the needs of both students and faculty.