

****Special Meeting****
Associated Students Board of Directors
Humboldt State University
Meeting on Thursday, December 7, 2017
Nelson Hall East, Room 106
12:30 p.m.
Agenda #12

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Agenda #12 dated December 7, 2017 – **Action Item**
- IV. Chair's Report
- V. Public Comments (*As per the Gloria Romero Open Meeting Act of 2000 authorized by Section 89306.*)

Every A. S. Board of Directors agenda for regular meetings shall provide an opportunity for members of the public to directly address the A.S. Board of Directors on any item affecting higher education at the campus or statewide level. Provided that no action shall be taken on any item not appearing on the agenda. However, the A.S. Board of Directors may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed by a person exercising their public testimony rights, may ask a question for clarification, make a brief announcement, or make a brief report on his or her own activities. The A.S. Board of Directors may also provide a reference to resources for factual information, request staff to report back to the body at a subsequent meeting concerning any matter, or request that a matter of business be placed on a future agenda. Persons recognized by the Chair should first identify themselves by name. Time limits will be established by the Chair depending on the number of people wishing to speak and the length of the agenda. The maximum amount of time per speaker shall not exceed 10 minutes. Public comments regarding items on the agenda will be taken prior to each agenda item.
- VI. Old Business
 - 1) Resolution 2017-18-6: An Act to Establish a Legal Center at Humboldt State – **2st Reading**
The Board will discuss the creation of a legal resource center on campus.
- VII. Adjournment

Persons who wish to request disability related accommodations should contact Patric Esh, A.S. Board Coordinator, at (707) 826-4221, or e-mail at patric.esh@humboldt.edu as soon as possible. Some accommodations may take considerable time to arrange.



RESOLUTION No.: 2017-18-6

AUTHORED BY: Brooke Holdren, Representative of the College of the Natural Resources and Sciences

Michael Freire, Representative of Professional Studies

Reza Sadeghzadeh, Student and Officer of Office of Diversity and Inclusion

REFERRED TO: **AS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

ACTION SCHEDULED: November 13, 2017

SUBJECT: **An Act to Establish a Legal Center at Humboldt State.**

1. **WHEREAS**, the Associated Students (A.S.) Board of Directors of Humboldt State University (HSU) is the single recognized voice for all H.S.U. students; and,
2. **WHEREAS**, the Mission of the Associated Students of Humboldt State University serves to "assist in the protection of rights and interests of the individual student and the student body," and to "stimulate the educational, social, physical, and cultural well-being of the University community"; and,
3. **WHEREAS**, HSU mission statement says: "We believe the key to our common future will be the individual citizen who acts in good conscience and engages in informed action"; and,
4. **WHEREAS**, Humboldt State University has had a functional legal center in the last 15 years, and it was fully functional until the faculty member retired; and,
5. **WHEREAS**, Many CSU campuses in Northern California have legal centers, including San Francisco State University, Northridge State University, and Chico State University; and,;
6. **WHEREAS**, Humboldt Center for Constitutional Rights (HumRights), a local non-profit organization, has expressed the recognition of a need for a legal center for students. This is because most students come from far away to attend, and may not have available resources when facing a legal dispute. Other CSU's have functional legal centers to empower students, and would also provide learning and peer-mentoring opportunities for students. HumRights is in support of this center, and is offering assistance such as gathering resources and providing local attorney connections and consultation; and,
7. **WHEREAS**, In a non-scientific student-led survey of 100 randomly selected students about 1/3 have been in a legal dispute since attending HSU, and none of them sought or received support from HSU. 97% of students surveyed said that students would benefit from a legal center on campus; and,

8. **WHEREAS**, According to Institutional Effectiveness, 53.1% of first time undergraduate students at Humboldt State University are low income.¹ Thus, those students may not have access to alternative legal recourse, since they do not have the financial ability to speak with an attorney if they have a legal issue; and,
9. **WHEREAS**, Humboldt State University openly serves undocumented students; and,
10. **WHEREAS**, 8,503 students attend HSU, and as of 2013 only 18% of students live on campus.² That means there are many students who are renters in Humboldt County; Be it resolved by the member by the Associated Students Board of Directors; Be it resolved by the member by the Associated Students Board of Directors,
11. **RESOLVED**, AS supports the establishment of this legal center, in the form of making the Legal Center a AS program; and,
12. **RESOLVED**, HSU Administration supports, recognizes, and acknowledges the need of a legal center on campus,
13. **RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution be sent to, but not limited to Lisa Rossbacher, HSU President and the HSU Cabinet.

¹ <http://www.humboldt.edu/irp/>

² www.humboldt.edu/portalgraphics/HSU-HousingStudy.pdf

Brooke Holdren

Brooke Holdren, Representative of the College of Natural Resources and Sciences

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11/8/17

Michael Freire, Representative of College of Professional Studies

Reza Sadeghzadeh

Reza Sadeghzadeh, Student

HUMBOLDT CENTER FOR



CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS

637 F Street, Arcata, CA 95521
707.633.9085

Associated Students
Humboldt State University
1 Harpst St.
Arcata, CA 95521

Dear Associated Students,

I am writing this letter in support of the proposed resolution for the establishment of a student legal rights center at Humboldt State. More than half the students enrolled at Humboldt State come from places that are hundreds of miles away. If they get into a dispute with a landlord or business, or a problem with police, they do not know where they can go to get legal advice.

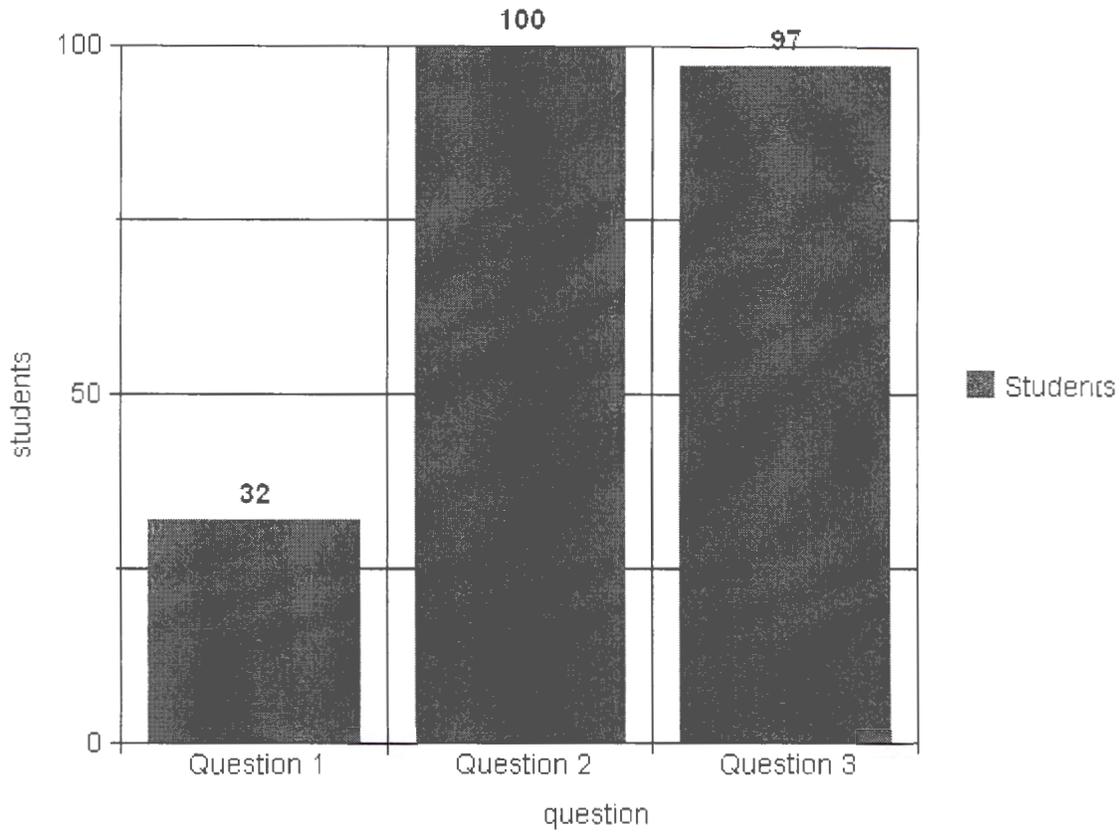
Other universities, such as San Francisco State, house a legal resource center. Such centers serve to educate students on their legal rights, helping empower them when they get involved in disputes. Such centers provide basic information such as the Guide to Residential Tenant and Landlord Rights and Responsibilities published by the California Department of Consumer Affairs.

The center would also serve as a great learning opportunity in a peer-mentoring setting. The Humboldt Center for Constitutional Rights (HumRights) supports this concept and offers its assistance in establishing a student legal resource center. HumRights is an Arcata-based 501c3 non-profit organization, established in 2008 to educate citizens on their rights under the U.S. Constitution. HumRights has licensed attorneys on its board who can help establish curriculum for a student legal resource center class and provide assistance on gathering material and information that the center could provide. HumRights would also like to work with Humboldt State in putting together a list of local attorneys who would take referrals and offer students free initial consultations.

A legal resource center is needed at Humboldt State University. The Humboldt Center for Constitutional Rights supports this project and pledges what support it can offer to make it happen.

Marcy Burstiner
Chair, Humboldt Center for Constitutional Rights
Prof. Department of Journalism and Mass Communication

Student Legal Center Survey



Question 1. While attending HSU, have you been in a dispute with your landlord, the law enforcement, and/or the local businesses?

YES **NO**

Question 2. If yes, was HSU able provided you with any sources of legal assistance?

YES **NO**

Question 3. Do you think HSU should have a legal information center for students?

YES **NO**