RESOLUTION No. 2015-16-3

AUTHORED BY: Madison Whaley

REFERRED TO: AS COUNCIL

ACTION SCHEDULED: February 22, 2016

SUBJECT: Resolution In Support of Having Fruit Trees on Campus

WHEREAS, the Associated Students (A.S.) Council of Humboldt State University (HSU) is the single recognized voice for over 8,600 students; and,

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,

WHEREAS, the HSU vision statement says that "we will be renowned for social and environmental responsibility and action" and that "we believe individuals must be environmentally, economically and socially responsible in the quest for viable and sustainable communities"; and,

WHEREAS, the Fruit Tree Alliance (FTA) is a group of students working toward incorporating the fruit trees into the landscape and has received support from members of faculty and staff, as well as from the signatures of over 400 students thus far; and,

WHEREAS, the inclusion of fruit trees in the landscape is an important step in the direction of environmental responsibility. Edible landscaping is an important way to move toward sustainable food production, as it provides our communities with opportunities to reconnect with their food sources. It also promotes community-centered agriculture and the trees sequester carbon: two factors which will help lower HSU’s carbon footprint. Incorporating fruit trees into the HSU landscape, where they are visible and accessible to students, will thus serve as a way to raise awareness about sustainable agricultural practices; and,

WHEREAS, the environmental benefits of having fruit trees on campus are consistent with the mission of the HSU Strategic Plan and with the Climate Action Committee’s need to take bold action in reducing HSU’s carbon footprint; and,

WHEREAS, Oh Snap! reports that as many as 40% of HSU students report being food insecure. While it is not the full solution to the problem, incorporating fruit trees into the HSU landscape can serve an important role in reducing food insecurity on campus; and,

WHEREAS, having free and easy access to fresh fruit can help promote better health among students and the FTA aims to do outreach regarding the health benefits of fresh fruit; and,

WHEREAS, the mission of the Fruit Tree Alliance is to improve the experience of HSU students by incorporating fruit trees into the landscape, a practice that demonstrates sustainable
landscaping and food production, promotes health, and may reduce food insecurity among students; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Associated Students of HSU recognizes the value that fruit trees in the landscape will bring to the campus community; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that the Associated Students of HSU recognizes and supports the Fruit Tree Alliance’s proposal and calls on the HSU Climate Action Committee, HEIF, and Plant Operations to collaborate with the FTA in the inclusion fruit trees in the HSU landscape; and be it finally,

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution will be sent to, but not limited to: University Center Board of Directors, CSU Chancellor Timothy White, HSU President Lisa A. Rossbacher, HSU Provost Alexander Enyedi, HSU Administrative Vice President Joyce Lopes, HSU Student Affairs Vice President Peg Blåke, Facilities Management, Plant Operations, Associate Vice President of Facilities Management Traci Ferdolage, Director of Sustainability TallChief Comet, Sustainability and Waste Coordinator Morgan King, HSU Resident Housing Association, Campus Center for Appropriate Technology, Waste-Reduction & Resource Awareness Program, Humboldt Orientation Program, campus and local media, the Associated Students of each of the CSU’s 23 campuses, the California State Student Association, The Lost Coast Outpost, Times Standard, Mad River Union, The North Coast Journal, and KRFH 610 AM.

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