



## **Orange Coast College Academic Senate Resolution for Supporting Part-Time Faculty Participation in Commencement**

Spring 2026-1

Moved by Senator Jenny Chaiyakal

***Approved by the Orange Coast College Academic Senate on March 24, 2026***

**WHEREAS**, part time faculty make up a significant portion of the instructional workforce at Orange Coast College and are essential to student success and the mission of the college; and

**WHEREAS**, commencement is a meaningful academic tradition that allows faculty to recognize and celebrate student achievement; and

**WHEREAS**, part time faculty build meaningful relationships with students and contribute significantly to their academic experiences; and

**WHEREAS**, part time faculty are not currently included in commencement in the same manner as full time faculty, including sitting and walking with faculty during the ceremony; and

**WHEREAS**, the college currently provides regalia for full time faculty but does not provide comparable support for part time faculty; and

**WHEREAS**, equitable inclusion of part time faculty in institutional practices reflects the college's commitment to fairness, respect, and professional recognition;

**RESOLVED**, that the Orange Coast College Academic Senate affirms the importance of full participation of part time faculty in commencement alongside full time faculty; and

**RESOLVED**, that the Academic Senate recommends that part time faculty who choose to participate be included with faculty during commencement, including sitting and walking with faculty; and

**RESOLVED**, that the Academic Senate recommends that the college provide funding for regalia for part time faculty who choose to participate; and

**RESOLVED**, that the Academic Senate urges collaboration with relevant stakeholders, including part time faculty, to remove barriers and support equitable participation; and

**RESOLVED**, that this resolution be forwarded to the College President, Vice Presidents, and appropriate shared governance bodies for consideration.