

## **Faculty Resolution to Temporarily Lift the Prohibition against Flexible Teaching Modalities on the UW Tacoma Campus during COVID-19**

**WHEREAS**, the pandemic has created a clear and urgent need for greater flexibility in how our students - especially those vulnerable to the myriad and significant impacts of COVID-19 - participate in the learning process; and

**WHEREAS**, “hyflex” is broadly defined on the UW Tacoma [Chancellor’s website](#) as including “simultaneous in-person and online instruction” and this resolution uses that same definition; and

**WHEREAS**, versions of the hyflex teaching model enable the teaching and learning process to be adaptive and flexible during an unprecedented time of uncertainty and instability while increasing access; and

**WHEREAS**, the *School of Education* at the University of Washington Seattle recognizes that “The maximum flexibility of th[e hyflex] model empowers students to choose the types of interaction and participation that best meet their needs”; and

**WHEREAS**, University of Washington Seattle does not have a policy prohibiting ‘hyflex’; and

**WHEREAS**, flexibility in modality creates the potential to significantly minimize disruptions to the learning process during the pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, since March 2020, the UW Seattle and UW Tacoma administrations have exhorted faculty members to be as flexible as possible for student needs during the pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, the *Academic Success Programs* unit has agreed to partner with the *Office of Digital Learning and Media Services* at UW Tacoma in the design and implementation of a pilot project to study hyflex classroom practices on this campus if the prohibition is lifted, enabling us to be intentional and systematic about how we use ‘hyflex’ and other flexible teaching modalities as a campus community; and

**WHEREAS**, *Media Services* at UW Tacoma confirms that the majority of campus classrooms contain numerous camera and microphone systems that enable the use of Zoom or Panopto technology in the classroom; and

**WHEREAS**, policy regarding pedagogy and other teaching practices at UW Tacoma fall under the purview of the faculty on this campus;

### **BE IT RESOLVED,**

That, UW Tacoma administration’s policy prohibiting faculty from offering flexible modalities, specifically within campus and hybrid courses, will be lifted starting spring quarter 2022 through AY 2022-2023.

Approved by EC 03.28.2022