

**MENDOCINO-LAKE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

A regular meeting of the Mendocino-Lake Community College District Board of Trustees was convened on Wednesday, November 5, 2014, Mendocino College, 1000 Hensley Creek Road, Ukiah, California.

GENERAL MATTERS

Call To Order Trustee Clark, Board President, called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

<i>Board Members</i>	President	Joel Clark	present
	Vice President	John Tomkins	present
	Clerk	Edward Haynes	present
	Trustee	Paul Ubelhart	present
	Trustee	Joan M. Eriksen	present
	Trustee	Janet Chaniot	present
	Trustee	Dave Geck	present
	Student Trustee	Nayeli Castaneda	present

Secretary Arturo Reyes, Superintendent/President

Support Staff Mary Lamb, Executive Assistant II to Superintendent/President

Staff Representatives Virginia Guleff, Vice President of Education & Student Services (present)
Eileen Cichocki, Vice President of Administrative Services (present)

<i>Constituent Representatives</i>	Academic Senate	Jason Edington, Vice President (present)
	Classified Senate	David Bushway, President (present)
	Management/Supervisory/Confidential	Minerva Flores, President (present)

Agenda Approval M/S/C (Haynes/Geck) to approve the agenda as presented. The matter was approved 8-0.

Minutes/Approval M/S/C (Chaniot/Geck) to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on October 1, 2014 as presented. M/S/C (Geck/Ubelhart) to approve the minutes of Board workshop held on October 15, 2014 as presented. M/S/C (Geck/Haynes) to approve the minutes of the special meeting held on October 15, 2014 as presented. All the minutes were approved with an 8-0 vote.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 5:03 PM. Board President Clark announced that items 2.1 Collective Bargaining/Meet and Confer; 2.2 Conference with real property negotiator; 2.3 Conference with Legal Counsel and 2.4 Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release will be discussed.

The Board returned to open session at 5:40 PM with Board President Clark reporting no action taken on the items discussed in closed session. Board

President Clark added the Board will return to closed session again at the end of the meeting to complete their discussions.

TIME CERTAIN ITEM: 6:00PM

Public Comments

The following people addressed the Board regarding the Point Arena Field Station:

- Chelsea Felden is a biological science major who attended University of California-Davis majoring in English. It was her experience at the Point Arena Field Station that solidified her interest in the biological science area and she feels keeping the site will help to boost transfer rates.
- Ed Haynes addressed the Board as a member of the community for the past twenty years. In the interest of open discussion and open debate, there has been a lot of pressure placed on the Board regarding this topic. As the Chairman of the Board of Trustees Point Arena Field Station Ad-Hoc Committee, he reiterated there has been no published research and there is spotty documented use of the facility by less than 1% of the student population. He also encouraged the Board to consider expansion of the southern conservation area.
- Marcus Fredrickson stated as a full-time faculty member, the main concern he sees is increasing our enrollments and the need to capture students from outside the district. He feels the need to establish a statewide and nationwide image to attract more students to our area is essential and feels with monetary support coming from grant writing we should retain ownership of the property.
- Travis Paizen is the student appointed ecology director and is not part of the Biological Science program. He feels the PAFS is a valuable resource and with proper marketing, it would garner outside interest and attract more students. He is a graduate of SFSU with a degree in Film Studies. It was the Sustainable Tech program which interested him which he learned about from a newspaper article. He encouraged the college to branch out and think outside of the box as that's what gets high school graduates excited.
- Emily Scott distributed packets to the members of the Board which they also received via email earlier. Contained in the information, is a recap of student support for retaining the property. She is currently the North County ASMC representative and has attended the last couple of Board meetings. She agrees with Ms. Felden's earlier statement and thanked the Board for supporting students and the Coast.
- Leslie Dalhoff is the former mayor of Point Arena who stated she spoke with the Board of Trustees Ad-Hoc committee and appreciates the amount of thought and work that has been dedicated to making this decision. The Point Arena Gateway which is part of the National Monument Advisory group has been working with BLM since 2006 and they are thrilled with the conservation easement option where ownership is maintained and would also preserve the educational use under the same criteria along with the land being protected forever. She stated she would love to see the Board of Trustees approve the conservation easement or the reservation option and she doesn't see a downside other than a reduction in the amount paid to the college. She also added that Ty Moore from the Point Arena Lighthouse

asked her to convey that he is very interested in collaborating with the college as well.

- Julie Bawcom stated there is a lot of community support and interest in maintaining ownership of the property which may be helped by many grant opportunities. She added there have been many fundraising ideas discussed and the community is here to support this effort in any way it can.
- Paul Poulos addressed the Board regarding the maintenance of the buildings which he stated have not been properly cared for. He also added he feels funds cannot be raised until you know you have something to raise funds for. He feels very strongly the Friends of the Point Arena Field Station will obtain grants but you cannot receive grants for something you have no access to.
- Jared Carter addressed the Board stating he and Barry Vogel have been working with the Friends of the Point Arena Field Station group on this issue. He stated the ad-hoc committee went to great lengths to obtain information from everyone concerned and feels the conservation easement is a constructive proposal that is a win/win situation. He feels the conservation easement accomplishes the educational accommodations without the risk of lawsuits from him or others and hopes the Board will support the conservation easement option.
- Billie Smith stated from the beginning, the group wanted time to find out if support in the way of funding could be obtained. She commended S/P Reyes with finding a “solution” which will now allow for the time needed to find funding supporting the facility. She understands with the conservation easement there will be certain parameters to work toward but she urged the Board members to choose the easement option.
- Barry Vogel expressed his joy regarding where we are in the discussion and was glad to hear from Alan West and Steve Cardimona about them being part of the committee to establish the conservation easement parameters. He is anxious to hear what motion will be made regarding this issue.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

A written report was submitted by Superintendent/President Reyes. The following was offered in addition:

- S/P Reyes stated that during a recent conversation he had with Board President Clark, BLM, TPL and property appraiser, the conversation turned to BLM and their willingness to purchase a conservation easement on the property from us. There was a discussion about what that would mean which was explained as the college would continue to own all property and buildings and would continue to engage in its educational activities as we are currently. BLM would pay the college the fair market value for this easement with BLM making the assessment as to what the amount would actually be in thirty to forty-five days. The property value would drop significantly as we would be promising to not to sell the property to a private entity and BLM would have a roll in ensuring the agreement is followed. What this would mean for daily operations would be BLM intervention would occur if something out of the ordinary were to be happening at the site. If the college was interested in doing something at

the site that we were not sure would meet the parameters, we would need to check with BLM first. Details of what is in the agreement would need to be worked out with BLM. The property could be sold in the future but the uses and restrictions would remain the same with a future sale taking place only with another educational institution. S/P Reyes had a conversation with Professors West and Cardimona as well as Academic Senate President Edelman and Academic Senate Vice President Edington regarding this possibility. Board President Clark added the value of the easement is what you are forfeiting. We don't have an answer immediately regarding the value of this easement but we will need it if we are to move forward. S/P Reyes added the baseline assessment would be established once an agreement is entered into.

- Trustee Chaniot commented about Senate Bill 850 and would like to see Mendocino College offer 4 year degrees in the future but agrees that it is not practical for us at this time. She will be interested in seeing how the process develops going forward.

CONSENT AGENDA

M/S/C (Tomkins/Haynes) RESOLVED, That the Mendocino-Lake Community College District Board of Trustees does hereby approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The matter was approved 8-0.

Items with an asterisk * were approved by one motion as the Consent Agenda.

Personnel

*Employment –
Short-Term
Employees*

*RESOLVED, That the Mendocino-Lake Community College District Board of Trustees does hereby ratify the employment of the short-term employees as submitted and presented at the meeting.

Volunteers

*RESOLVED, That the Mendocino-Lake Community College District Board of Trustees does hereby approve the list of Volunteers as submitted and presented at the meeting.

*Retirement –
Classified
Employee*

*RESOLVED, That the Mendocino-Lake Community College District Board of Trustees does hereby accept the retirement of Johnny Smith as submitted and presented at the meeting.

*Retirement –
Supervisory
Employee*

*RESOLVED, That the Mendocino-Lake Community College District Board of Trustees does hereby accept the retirement of Arlene Peters as submitted and presented at the meeting.

Resignations

*RESOLVED, That the Mendocino-Lake Community College District Board of Trustees does hereby accept the resignation of Gregory Byard and Aeron Ives as submitted and presented at the meeting.

*Employment –
Classified/Approval
of Reclassification*

*RESOLVED, That the Mendocino-Lake Community College District Board of Trustees does hereby approve the reclassification of Susan Orozco to Alt Media/Assistive Technology Technician as submitted and presented at the

meeting.

Other Items

*Fiscal Report as of
September 30, 2014*

*RESOLVED, That the Mendocino-Lake Community College District Board of Trustees does hereby accept the fiscal report as submitted.

*Donation of
Automobile*

*RESOLVED, That the Mendocino-Lake Community College District Board of Trustees does hereby accept the donation of an automobile from Sunshine Georgantis as presented.

*Donation of
Compost*

*RESOLVED, That the Mendocino-Lake Community College District Board of Trustees does hereby accept the donation of compost from Cold Creek Compost as presented.

*Academic Calendar
2015-16*

*RESOLVED, That the Mendocino-Lake Community College District Board of Trustees does hereby adopt the revised academic calendar as presented.

*Sale and/or
Disposal of Surplus
Property*

*RESOLVED, That the Mendocino-Lake Community College District Board of Trustees does hereby authorize the sale and/or disposal of surplus property as presented.

ACTION ITEMS

*Quarterly Fiscal
Status Report – AB
2910*

Vice President Cichocki presented the first quarterly fiscal report which is due to the Chancellor's Office on November 15th. This report is submitted by all Community Colleges in the state. Report reflects the budgets and revenues to date with the far right column reflecting our adopted budget. The adopted budget reflects the 8% reserve which is a Board requirement. In order to achieve the 8% reserve, there is a one-time transfer from Health Fund of \$550,000 for the 2014-15 year. With a reserve number of 5%, the college would be placed on a watch list by Chancellor's office. At 3%, the state would step in and take over the fiscal operations of the institution.

Using the same assumptions going forward, budget concerns begin with the 2015-16 year which would end with a 2.5% reserve and decrease from there in each of the following out years. Current employee retirement rates are increasing with the STRS contribution rate increasing from 8.25% to 19% by the year 2021. This increase alone will cost Mendocino College approximately \$750,000. 87% of the District budget is allocated to salary and benefits. When creating our budgets, we normally go out three years but since we now have the STRS rates for the next six years, we have used this opportunity to look at things that far in the future.

Another unique situation is we are currently experiencing enrollment issues at the same time as we are expected to fund significant retirement fund cost increases. We are working diligently on an enrollment plan and the Deans are working on increasing our efficiency rates. It was noted that the trend statewide reflects enrollments are down 2%.

When asked what happens if the state reviews the report and sees there are significant fiscal problems that need to be addressed, Vice President Cichocki informed the Board the State would send in their representatives if we fall below the 5% reserve number. She also added we are required to submit an annual report to ACCJC and we would most likely end up on their watch list as well. To date, we have not been on the ACCJC watch list.

M/S/C (Tomkins/Geck) RESOLVED, That the Mendocino-Lake Community College District Board of Trustees does approve the Quarterly Fiscal Status Report as submitted and presented at the meeting. The matter was approved 8-0.

Point Arena Field Station

A motion was made and seconded (Ubelhart/Eriksen) that the Board directs staff to work with TPL and BLM to secure a conservation easement for the Point Arena Field Station property. After discussion, the motion was amended to include the statement “The Board also directs representatives of the college to work with Point Arena Field Station advocates (Friends of the Point Arena Field Station), interested faculty and others to secure financial support for the Point Arena Field Station and to design a three-year fund-raising campaign plan. Progress reports on these directives are to be presented to the Board at the December 2014 Board meeting.” Trustees then voted on the amended motion.

M/S/C (Ubelhart/Eriksen) RESOLVED, That the Mendocino-Lake Community College District Board of Trustees does hereby direct the staff to work with TPL and BLM to secure a conservation easement for the Point Arena Field Station property and also directs representatives from the college to work with Point Arena Field Station advocates (Friends of the Point Arena Field Station), interested faculty and others to secure financial support for the Point Arena Field Station and to design a three-year fund-raising campaign plan. Progress reports on these directives are to be presented to the Board at the December 2014 Board meeting. The matter was approved with a 7-1 vote with Trustee Haynes casting the only vote in opposition.

Education and Student Services Report

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

A written report was submitted by Virginia Guleff, Vice President of Education and Student Services. The following was offered in addition:

- When asked to expand on early alert letters, Vice President Guleff informed the board this is part of the student success plan we are looking to strengthen. She also informed the Board members of the early alert report that goes to the various departments such as counseling.
- She also informed the board about the plan to integrate information into courses as a way to defuse some of the myths surrounding our various student services. Unfortunately, there are some students who continue to think they must pay for those services.
- AB 86 report is due to be submitted to the Chancellor’s Office in December and she thanked the many staff members for their contributions for many of the report submissions.

- The food pantry project that is being developed by ASMC and student services will help to serve the many students who come to school hungry. This initiative came from the students and is being supported by the Foundation. ASMC has been asked to develop a plan where this program can be sustainable moving forward.

*Administrative
Services Report*

A written report was submitted by Eileen Cichocki, Vice President of Administrative Services. The following was offered in addition:

- Vice President Cichocki stated she received good news at the ACBO conference in the form of an additional \$40,000 to Mendocino College this year if the state eliminates the deficit factor which looks as though it will happen.
- When asked about the ACBO conference, Vice President Cichocki informed the Board she feels the twice a year conferences are very valuable. These conferences allow for a chance to hear updates from the Chancellor's Office as well as from the Community College League. Another benefit is the sharing of ideas with representatives from other small institutions.

*Mendocino College
Foundation, Inc.*

A written report was submitted by Katie Fairbairn, Executive Director of the Mendocino College Foundation, Inc.

- The Foundation is in the process of working with the family of LaRue Kobrin to establish a perpetual scholarship in her memory. The Foundation has also received a commitment to double the initial donation by mid-January 2015. LaRue Kobrin was a psychology instructor who had one of our nursing graduates as her hospice nurse.

*Constituents Group
Reports*

A written report was submitted by the Academic Senate President Reid Edelman. The following was offered in addition:

- Attending the meeting on behalf of Senate President Edelman, Academic Senate Vice President Edington invited the Board to attend the theatre department production of Eurydice which opens this weekend. He added that faculty members are currently working on class schedules with Vice President Guleff to ensure that classes are not overlapping which will then enable students to enroll in the classes they need.

The following oral reports were presented at the meeting:

Classified:

Classified Senate Vice President David Bushway announced that Classified Senate President Alfin has resigned his position and Vice President Bushway will be assuming the role of President.

ASMC:

Trustee Castaneda informed the Board of the initial plans by the ASMC to establish a food pantry where students could obtain food in an emergency.

Plans are moving slowly while they are trying to get program started with guidelines in place to sustain the project.

There will be holiday dinner for students which will be held on Tuesday, December 9th from 12p-2p and will be a buffet. It will be held in the student center.

Health Benefits

The Health Benefits Report is presented as information only.

*Board Policy
Additions and
Revisions*

The revisions to the Board policies are presented as information for review. Voting on these revisions will take place at the December 2014 meeting.

TRUSTEE COMMUNICATION

Trustee Reports

A written report was submitted by Trustee Chaniot. The following was offered in addition:

- Trustee Chaniot informed the Board she recently read an article about colleges that offer courses to prison inmates and had previously heard about people who wanted to include students from Juvenile Hall in their classes. S/P Reyes stated it is difficult to have prisoners come and attend classes on campus. In the past, these courses have mostly been completed as correspondence courses. Some faculties have members that go into the prisons to offer courses. If the Board is interested in something like this, we can look at it. Vice President Guleff added a while back we had looked at the possibility of offering online to inmates but they do not have online options available to them.
- Trustee Chaniot is reviewing ways Board members can obtain trainings. CCLC have scheduled some meetings throughout the state due to the expense involved. She will mention again that trustees in different regions may be interested in training sessions of this type.

Oral report by Trustee Tomkins:

- Trustee Tomkins stated he recently spoke with Michelle Scully from Marymount College in Lake County. He would like her to make a presentation to the Board regarding how Marymount plans to move forward and how we can work together.

Oral report by Trustee Eriksen:

- Trustee Eriksen stated she attended two meetings regarding the Point Arena Field Station, worked at the college booth at the Pumpkin Fest and attended AAUW and Ukiah High School Alumni Association meetings.

Oral report by Trustee Ubelhart:

- Trustee Ubelhart stated he had nothing to add.

Oral report by Trustee Clark:

- Board President Clark reminded the Board members that Election of

Officers for the 2015 year will take place at next meeting. Now is the time to submit your intentions to S/P Reyes.

A written report was submitted by Trustee Haynes. The following was offered in addition:

- Trustee Haynes stated he had nothing to add.

Oral report by Trustee Geck:

- Trustee Geck reminded the Board members that whatever goes forward regarding the Point Arena Field Station, we must make sure it is tied to our strategic goals including financial, sustainable student synergies, etc. As most of the district funds are tied to staff, we must make sure it is something the college can ensure works from a fiscal perspective.

A written report was submitted by ASMC President Reynolds with assistance from Trustee Castaneda. The following was offered in addition:

- Trustee Castaneda stated she had nothing to add.

*Trustee Self
Evaluation*

Per Board Policy 215, an analysis of the Board's Self-Evaluation and the evaluation of the board by staff were submitted as information. The Board briefly discussed the results of the evaluations.

Adjournment

The Board adjourned again to Closed Session at 8:26 PM.

The Board returned to open session at 9:23 PM with Board President Clark reporting no action was taken on the items discussed in closed session.

M/S/C (Tomkins/Geck) RESOLVED, That the Mendocino-Lake Community College District Board of Trustees does hereby adjourn the meeting at 9:24 PM.

Submitted by:
Arturo Reyes, Superintendent/President
Secretary, Board of Trustees

November 5, 2014 public comments supporting the sale of PAFS Ed Haynes

There has been much pressure exerted on the BOT regarding this matter. In my opinion, much of what is out there is misinformation. Allow me to reiterate some facts; for over 30 years

There is no published research of data collected from the PAFS site

There is spotty documented student use (one percent or less of the MC student body)

Mother Nature's unrelenting assault on the man-made structures is unabated

In 2008 there was an estimate of ~\$2M to adequately bring the structures up to code with annual upkeep estimates of \$75K+/-50K

There has been a chronic dearth of PAFS funds in the college budget via shared governance

There is no serious interest from any other educational entity for MC to "partner with"

There is no serious fundraising from the community (1 exception of \$50K spread over/5Y)

Mike Adams – if MC had \$1.5M would we buy the PAFS?

Hope and Change sound great, but they are birds in the bush. H&C don't pay the bills. H&C are not sound fiscal policy.

Would anyone take this bet - \$1.5M versus H&C?

The TPL offer is a bird in the hand. \$1M @ 5% is \$50K/Y

Preserve and vastly expand the current educational value of all MC field science classes

Support the Point Arena Gateway Community's efforts to benefit their local economy by patronizing the town's lodging and dining businesses during MC field trips to the National Monument

Clean up the LORAN site's environmental contaminants (lead, asbestos, diesel); present for 70+y

What is a National Park Vs Monument?

Expand & protect our local Coastal N.M. (840x12) from private/corporate development

Ensure this land is treasured and protected in perpetuity

Remove buildings & return the land to its pristine nature; as before human arrival

Thought experiment – transport these structures to Yosemite or Mendocino Headlands

Allow the public an unspoiled viewscape across miles of beautiful Mendocino coastline

Forever preserve Mendocino College's current access to the PAFS/LORAN site

Support BLM in limiting public access to ecologically and culturally sensitive areas

Encourage southern expansion of the current State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA) to protect the tide pools from abalone and kelp harvesting.

Marcus Frederickson

Good Evening Colleagues:

President Clark, VP Tomkins, Clerk Haynes, Trustees, Superintendent-President Reyes
Administration
Faculty
Staff
Community Members

Does the Point Arena Field Station have Value?

Is the value fair market? Sell high, sell low, or don't sell?

Well, Of course it has value, particularly if it remains in the possession of Mendocino College. It is one of the college's most valuable assets, and an invaluable vehicle for monetary support and marketing!

1. Student Success:
 - a. Field study courses provide students experience with collaborative efforts to accomplish a goal.
 - i. Data acquisition and processing for field study projects.
 - ii. Field station maintenance during stay: grocery shopping, cooking, KP, chores
2. Research Opportunities
 - a. UC, CSU and CCJC can access a unique environment for research.
3. Preservation
 - a. Aligns with the efforts to preserve the coastal bluff property as a National Monument
 - b. Pristine Coastal Land
4. Historical
 - a. World War II LAN Station
5. Marketing: Great Exposure across district boundaries
 - a. Broadens the reach of Mendocino College via indirect advertisement across CC districts.
 - i. California: UC, CSU
 - ii. Nationally: with proximity to National Monument Land
 - b. Exposure on the national level from increased tourism to Pt. Arena for the National Monument.
6. Monetary Support: Grant Funding (Items 1-5)

One of our main concerns at Mendocino College is increasing if not sustaining our enrollment. We clearly need to capture students from outside our district in order to sustain any level of meaningful growth. In fact, we need an image that goes beyond a small rural community college. Therefore Mendocino College needs to establish a statewide and a nationwide identity. Well, pawning off one of our most valuable assets is not the correct approach. There is no need to sell low. It is important to see this property as an extremely valuable asset that is necessary for the future of our institution. Unfortunately this property has not been properly managed or supported by Mendocino College as a whole. Both the faculty and administration past and present share the burden of such criticism. I am not here before our institutional and community members to criticize at any length. Rather, I am here to make mention that a healthy institution would utilize this property as a vehicle for funding, marketing, student success, and thus institutional success. This is a great opportunity to ensure the health of our institution for generations to come.

Comments Regarding Use/Redesign of the LORAN Station Buildings

Ty Moore, Executive Director, Point Arena Lighthouse Keepers, Inc.

Please extend my greetings and regret that I couldn't be there today.

Comments:

My overall vision is for a new interpretive center for hikers to visit. This could be as involved as having an enclosed building with displays and gift store, or as simple as kiosks and information.

There should be an assessment to determine whether the old buildings should be restored or new structures built that are more practical and efficient. A small interpretive center, a simple dorm, and a research lab seem to be the most sensible structures for the property. Again these could be new buildings or remodeled from the existing ones.

Lodging is also available at the lighthouse.

A collaborative partnership should be open to several agencies including: NOAA, Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, other colleges and universities currently having interest in the research location, BLM, and any other stake holder who can help support the development and use of the property.

If development is restricted to education purposes, as is proposed, funding can be obtained via grants. Funding is obviously the top concern following a formalized plan that addresses all legalities.

Management of the property may require creative solutions including a day time caretaker, security cameras and building alarms (this detail might be unnecessary at this point in the conversation).

Student Report to the
Mendocino College Board of
Trustees regarding the
potential sale of the Point
Arena Field Station

Point Arena Field Station

Prepared by Emily Scott,
ASMC Student Senate North County
Representative

STUDENT REPORT FOR THE POINT ARENA FIELD STATION

A report to the Mendocino College Board of Trustees

November 11, 2014

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the Student Report to the Board of Trustees is to supplement the data that is missing from the PAFS Ad Hoc Committee report. As the ASMC North Coast Representative, I live on the coast and am working on issues relevant to the coast in the Student Senate.

On Wednesday, November 5, 2014, the Mendocino College Board of Trustees will make a very important decision about the fate of the Point Arena Field Station and the future of this institution. The Point Arena Field Station is important to students because the facility and surrounding property provides quality hands-on learning experiences, enhancing educational opportunities and the academic success of Mendocino College Students for over 30 years.

The Board of Trustees Point Arena Ad Hoc Committee included members from the Board of Trustees, MSC group, Academic Senate, Classified Senate. It did not include any members from the Student Senate. Significant data and student feedback were omitted from the PAFS Ad Hoc Committee Report. The student constituency is often the one most vulnerable to slip through the cracks when major decisions about the institution is on the table. Without proper feedback from students, the board does not have all of the information it needs to make the choice which best serves the institution as a whole.

The official position of the Associated Students of Mendocino College is to “Maintain Ownership.” Considering that the PAFS is surrounded by the BLM National Monument, if we don’t sell the property this time, it is feasible that the opportunity to sell to the BLM will present itself again. However, if the property is sold, it will be gone forever and we can never get it back. The permanence of the decision to sell is another reason not to do so at this time. The property is already protected by state and local laws from being further developed regardless of who owns it. The PAFS, as private property, offers a greater level of protection to the wildlife and sensitive areas that inhabit the property than would be if it were sold to the TPL, therefore the option to sell, with reservations, would not be a “win-win.”

ASMC’S OFICIAL STANCE IS TO MAINTIAN THE PROPERTY The Associated Students of Mendocino College, on October 13, 2014, voted to take an official position which supports

maintaining ownership of the property. The PAFS is a valuable tool and resource for MC students and believes that it should continue to be available to promote student success at Mendocino College. Therefore, **the ASMC's recommendation to the Mendocino College Board of Trustees is the vote to Maintain Ownership.**

THE SURVEY The Ad Hoc Committee alleges that it sent a survey to all significant constituency groups, including students of Mendocino College. This means that an excess of 3,000 surveys would have been administered to students. Only one survey was returned. Dozens of students were asked if they had been administered a survey about the sale of the Point Arena Field Station or if they had seen, heard of, or had any knowledge that a survey of this nature was being conducted. 100% of the students who were asked this question responded no, they had not received the survey via e-mail or other modality, nor did they have any knowledge that a PAFS survey of this nature was being conducted. If 3,000 surveys had, in fact, been successfully administered to students, there should be some sort of record of that. We would like to either see proof that the surveys were successfully administered or else would like a statement from the PA Ad Hoc Committee explaining why the surveys had failed to be administered to the student body. As it stands, it appears that only 1 of 3,000 surveys was actually successfully administered.

At the October 15th special board meeting, at least two students who had not received the survey requested that the ad hoc committee allow the students to participate in this process by re-opening the survey so that the students who had not received their surveys would be able to participate. That request was denied. Failure to allow student involvement in the survey severely skews the current data in the Point Arena Field Station Ad Hoc Committee's final report. Therefore the committee should strike the student response to the survey from the report because the data is invalid.

Hundreds of students voiced their desire not to sell the PAFS property by signing a petition asserting that they did not want to sell the property. Over <360 > students participated in signing the petition. In this report, the charts have been adjusted to include the student constituency who took the initiative to voice their stance.

Below are figures of the results of the survey. They have been adjusted to include the students who participated in the petition. This is a projection of what the results might like had the students been allowed to participate in the survey.

Figure 1

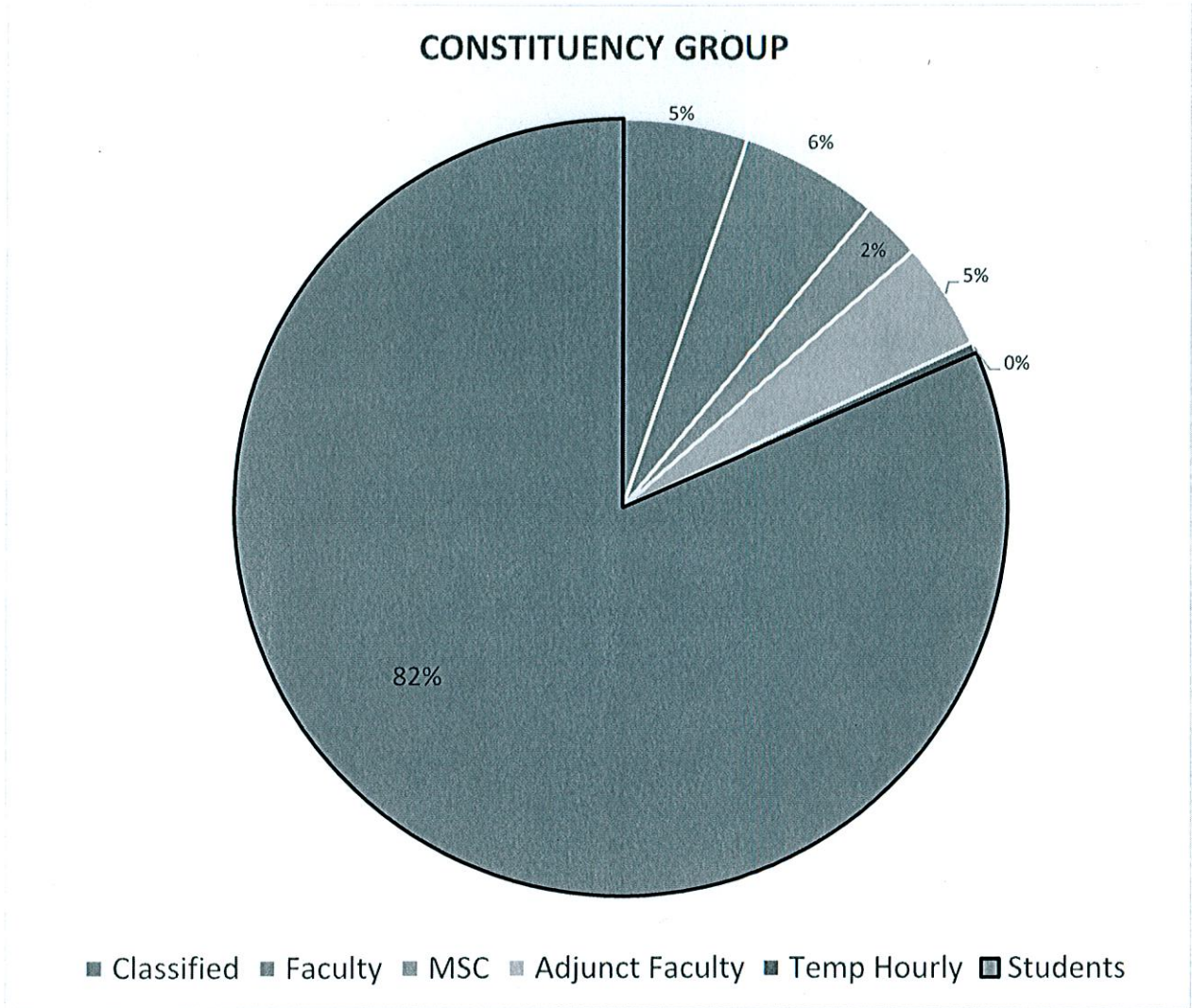


Figure 2

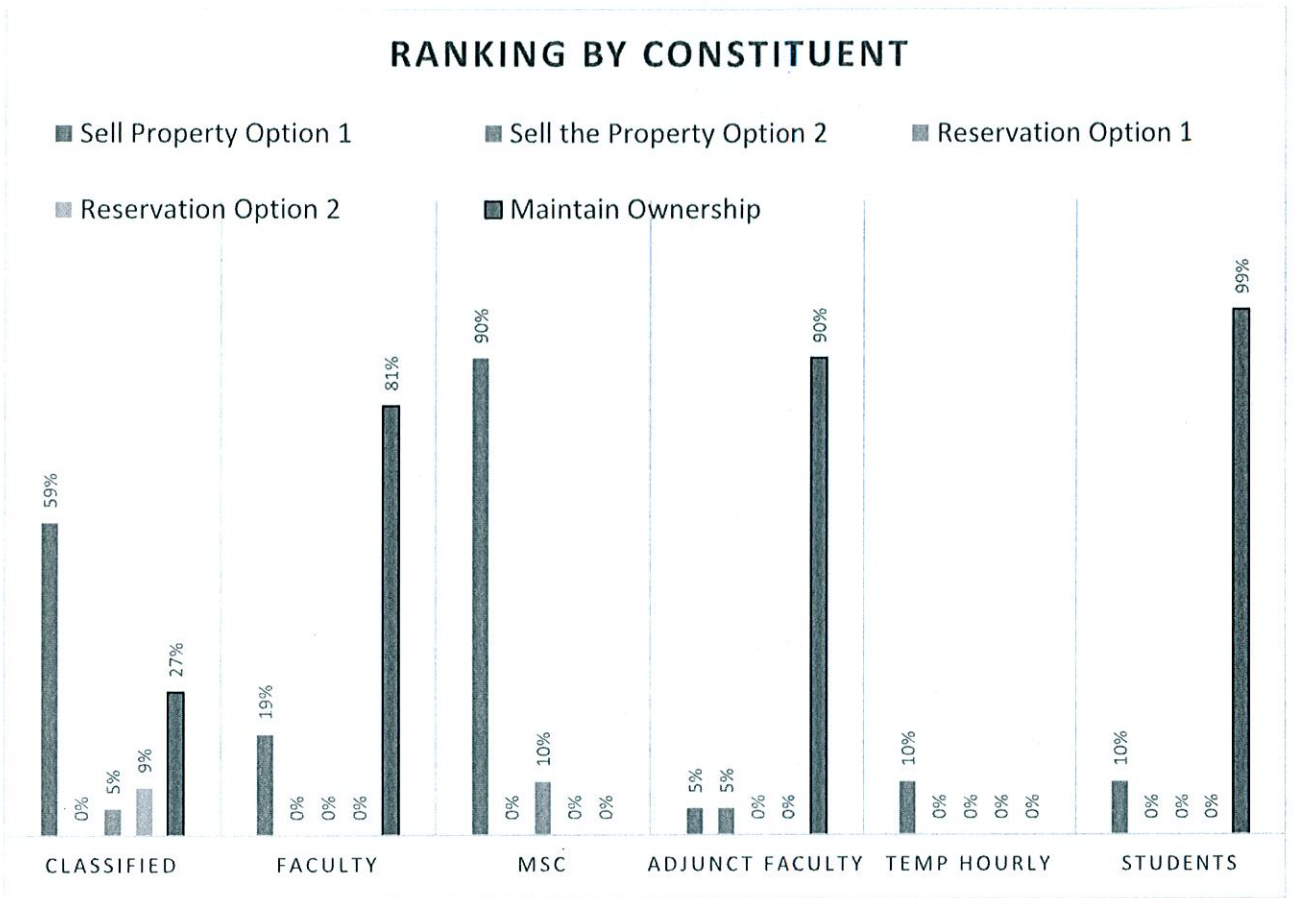


Figure 3

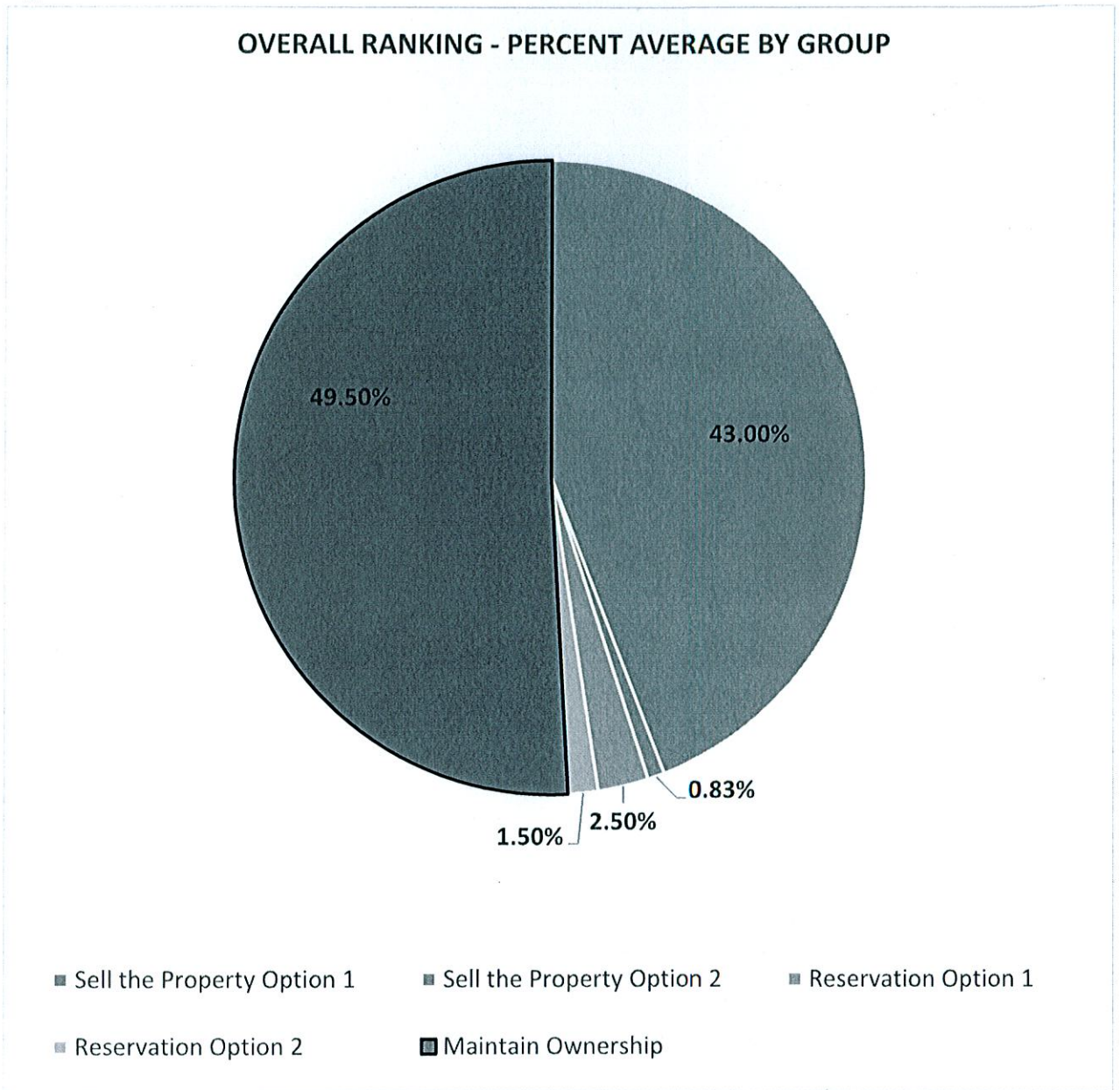


Figure 4

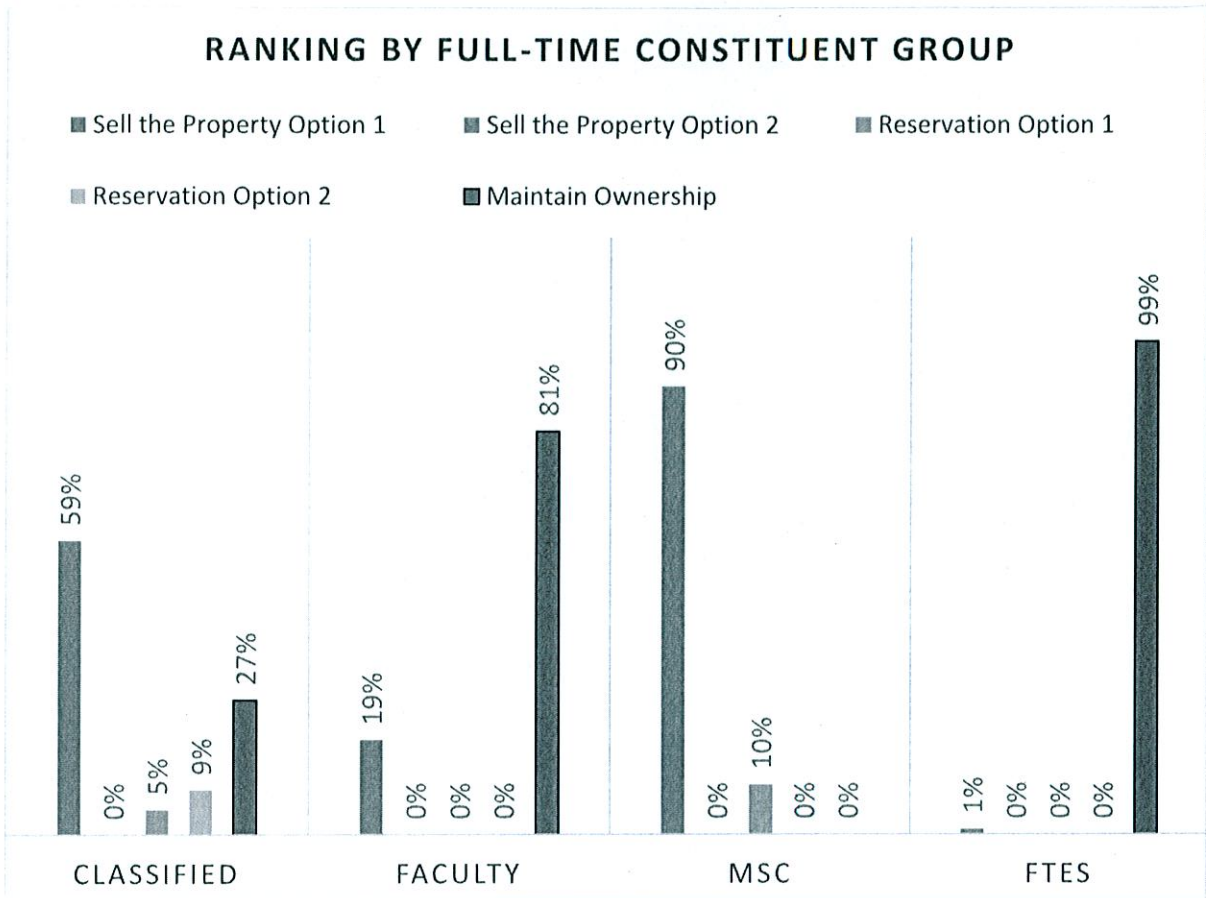
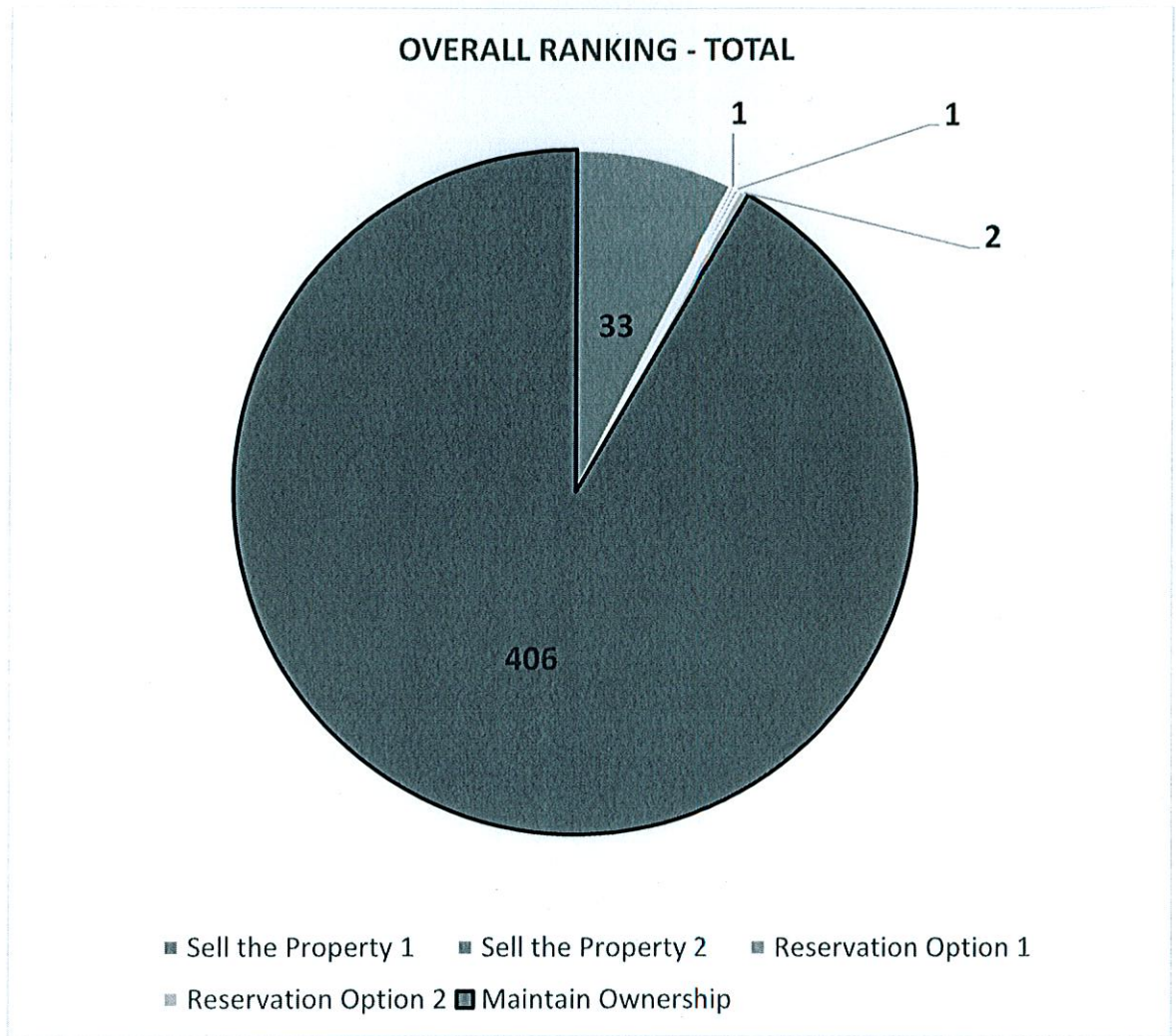


Figure 5



APPENDIX

This section focuses on four areas: 1) what is best for the college's students, 2) weighing the PASF's educational/research value, 3) fiduciary/funding, 4) the long-term consequences to the PAFS environment and property, 5) other question asked at PAFS meetings.

THE STUDENTS The students make up the largest constituency group at the college and should be factored into making this decision.

PAFS EDUCATIONAL/RESEARCH VALUE

The PAFS serves as a hub for science and educational research on the Mendocino Coast.

Currently, scientists at the Bodega Bay Marine lab use the Point Arena Field Station to conduct operations and gather data that serves as an early warning system against natural disasters in our area. "The high frequency radar system operated at the Point Arena Field Station by the UC Davis Bodega Marine Laboratory Oceanography Group provides continuous (24/7) ocean surface current data that are used for characterizing ocean upwelling which is critical for predicting salmon fisheries, sea level rise, and tsunami warnings" (Suzanne Olyarnik, PhD, Gary Cherr, PhD). The PAFS is much more than "just an expensive classroom."

There is published research that cites data collected at the PAFS site. The August 2011 issue of *Continental Shelf Research* published an article called "Surface circulation downstream of the Point Arena upwelling center" by Dr. John L. Largier, PhD, which cites data collected from the Point Arena Field Station (Halle, Largier).

The Point Arena Field Station provides high quality hands-on educational experiences to students at Mendocino College as well as to students from other institutions throughout Northern California. The active learning which happens at PAFS plays an important role in recruiting students into the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). "It has been clearly demonstrated that inclusion of experience-based learning into formal education engages students across economic status and ethnicity" (Olyarnik). "Based on our experience with other field stations, we also see significant potential for expansion of use by a much broader range of students and researchers from other institutions and disciplines" (Olyarnik).

Dr. Kathy Ann Miller, PhD, led a workshop at the PAFS in May. She praised the condition of the field station as being “an incredible piece of the north coast intertidal zone that has been protected from abuse and exploitation. **The numerous shallow intertidal red abalone attest to this protection**” (Miller) In contrast, as a result of heavy harvesting from an ever increasing number of tourists, there are no public access areas along the Mendocino Coast that still have abundant shallow intertidal red abalone as is found at the Point Arena Field Station.

The dominant plant community surrounding the Point Arena Field Station is coastal prairie. Coastal prairie is a mosaic of plants, wildflowers, and grasses, many of which are listed in the California Native Plant Society’s *Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants* (Tibor, et al.). For this reason, the Coastal Prairie plant community is considered a “sensitive plant community” by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the California Coastal Commission. The number of coastal prairie species considered to be rare and endangered is increasing (Ford, p. 209). CNPS recognizes avoiding impact to be the most effective rare plant preservation measure (Tibor, p. 41)

WHY VOTE TO MAINTAIN THE PROPERTY RATHER THAN VOTING TO SELL WITH RESERVATIONS?

It is important that the habitats at the Point Arena Field station remain undisturbed. **Voting for the compromise would compromise the ability to conduct viable research at that location.** To vote in favor of ‘to sell with reservation’ would leave the buildings, yes, but would also subject the sensitive habitats to being trampled by the public. The threat of public disturbance threatens the viability of the site and the vitality of the species being studied, thus lowering the overall quality of the site. In the interest of protecting the superior, pristine condition of the PAFS property and the species existing therein, a reservation sale is not desirable.

THE PAFS 15 ACRE PARCEL IS ALREADY PROTECTED FROM BEING DEVELOPED

Rare and endangered species as well as facultative species found on the 15 acre PAFS parcel are protected by the California Coastal Commission, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and also by other environmental protection laws that prohibit the development of environmentally sensitive areas along the California Coast. “Viability of rare, threatened, or endangered plants and their habitats takes precedence over economic or political expediency” (Tibor, p. 41) The privately owned parcel adjacent to the PAFS parcel was denied permission to develop because of the presence of facultative coastal vegetation which supports rare and endangered species. This is the same coastal prairie that dominates the bluffs surrounding the PAFS. These species will cease to be protected from disturbance by public recreational activity

if the grounds are sold to the TPL. Therefore, the property is better protected if you vote to maintain it and not sell it.

WILL SIGNS AND FENCES KEEP THE PUBLIC OUT? The trend of the general public is that people will tend to show greater respect for private property with on-site residents. Signs and fences alone are not as effective in keeping the public away from sensitive areas. Unsupervised, the public still goes where it wants to, regardless of what signs are posted – especially if there is good abalone to be harvested. All along the Mendocino Coast, throughout the parks and public access areas, there are holes in fences with trails leading through them and signs that have been altered. The public will ignore signs if there is no one around to enforce them. The best way to effectively minimize pedestrian trampling of sensitive areas around the PAFS is to maintain the facilities and acreage as private property and keep the on-site caretaker to mitigate trespassing.

CONCLUSION

The activities that happen at the Point Arena Field Station support student success at Mendocino College, and also makes the institution more attractive to prospective students. The PAFS is valuable to the institution and to the coastal community as an educational and research facility.

There is overwhelming support for Mendocino College to maintain full ownership of the PA field station. The full-time faculty wants to maintain ownership. The part-time faculty wants to maintain ownership. Of all of the constituency groups successfully surveyed, these two are the most likely to have done their due diligence before filling out the survey. The MC Student Senate wants to maintain ownership. UC Berkeley supports MC maintaining ownership. UC Davis supports MC maintaining ownership. The Noyo Center for Marine Science supports MC maintaining ownership. The general public wants MC to maintain ownership. When all parties affected by this decision are considered, ***the popular vote is for Mendocino College to maintain full ownership of the Point Arena Field Station.***

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