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Not surprisingly, given the extraordinary budgetary times we find ourselves in, the Academic Senate finds itself receiving more inquiries about program reduction and discontinuance than is typical. Faculty aren't contacting the Senate to find out how to jettison programs; rather, how can faculty defend vulnerable programs and the students they serve when programs are identified for reduction or elimination not on the basis of need, but on the basis of potential cost savings?

## Help From Title 5

Title 5 is not silent on the question of program discontinuation. Title 5 §51022 requires that "Within six months of the formation of a community college district, the governing board shall adopt and carry out its policies for the establishment, modification, *or discontinuance* of courses or programs. Such policies shall incorporate statutory responsibilities regarding vocational or occupational