

(Sent 5/19/21 to R&R Council Facilitator via email)

To the Revenue and Resource Committee: Cara Miyasaki, Phuong Tran, Mike Teijeiro

On behalf of the current and prospective students of the Foothill Radiologic program, we are addressing this committee due to the evolving needs of our education. Our education prepares us to go into a field of ever-changing technologies, protocols, and diagnostic imaging that saves lives daily. This field is ever changing, and so our education must evolve with it. The educational tools that worked five years ago cannot succeed today. The specific request we students are making for ourselves and prospective students is that we be granted more space to facilitate and advance the learning outcomes and attainment of practical skill during our education so that we go into the field fully prepared to be successful. Often, people think of x-ray imaging and think of still images of a chest or extremity, but that is only a percentage of what we do. In reality, on any given day or week, a technologist could work with a wide variety of different technologies and types of equipment. We do not only take x-rays in dedicated x-ray rooms, but we also use portable machines to take radiographs in patient's rooms and use C-arms in the operating room or surgery. All of these use different body mechanics, positioning guidelines, and modes of critical thinking. Traditional learning is measured by what you know and how you think. Our learning and success are measured not only by how we think and what we know, but how we execute a physical action. We do not learn only by developing neural connections in our brain, but through developing neural connections throughout our body. We need to learn to move patients and equipment by hands on learning and repetitious movements. Physical practice is key. Currently, our space for learning is only set up to facilitate a small proportion of these modalities. Essentially, we have a classroom for lectures, and a lab with our traditional mounted radiography or x-ray equipment. We do not currently have a dedicated space to practice our skills with the portable x-ray unit, or the C-arm fluoroscopy unit that is used in surgery and operating room settings. We are not only limited in our ability to use the equipment we already have, but this lack of space is also prohibiting us from getting approval for other needed learning tools such as a mammography unit. Some of these tools are accessible during our clinical rotations at local health care facilities, but not all students have equal access and time to practice with these tools depending on where they are assigned for their clinical rotation. Having space for reliable, consistent, organized, clutter free and safe use of the equipment necessary for us to succeed would advance our learning outcomes, make us more marketable and hireable, and continue to set the reputation of Foothill College apart as one of the leaders in Radiologic Technology education in the Bay Area and beyond. Your time and consideration in reading this is appreciated, and we await your response with gratitude and thanks.

Sincerely,

Foothill College Radiologic Technology Students:

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