Faculty Participation in the Development of Applied Doctoral Degree Programs

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of the California State University (CSU) acknowledge the efforts of both the Chancellor and the CSU community to secure authorization from the California Legislature to develop independent applied doctoral degree programs; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate CSU applaud the CSU’s leadership in recognizing the need to alleviate the significant shortage of highly qualified and effective educational leaders in California and its contributions to the successful passage of SB 724 which would authorize the CSU to offer independent applied doctoral degrees in education; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate CSU reaffirm the principles related to both the development and the quality of applied doctoral degree programs ensuring that such programs meet the highest national standards as articulated in AS-2532-01/FGA/TEKR; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate CSU strongly support the involvement of both our Community College and K-12 colleagues in the development of applied doctoral degree programs in education within the CSU; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate CSU establish an ad hoc committee, comprised of members of the Academic Senate (including representation from both its Teacher Education and K-12 Relations Committee and its Academic Affairs Committee), that will draft and propose to the Academic Senate CSU, principles and guidelines to be applied during the development and implementation of applied doctoral degree programs in education, to ensure both the participation of, and contributions from senators with expertise in professional education, educator preparation, and knowledge of national professional and accreditation standards of quality in applied doctoral degree programs, during this process.

RATIONALE: California State Senate bill 724 (SB 724) has been passed by both the Assembly and the Senate and awaits gubernatorial approval to become law. The provisions of this bill authorize the CSU both to develop applied doctoral degree programs and to offer applied doctoral degrees in education. The primary motivation for the promulgation of law in this area was recognition by both the State Legislature and the educational community that there exists a chronic unmet need for adequate numbers of highly qualified leaders in California’s K-12 schools and California Community Colleges. Through the efforts of the Chancellor of the CSU, and the broader CSU community, and members of the California Legislature,
a remedy to address this unmet need has been crafted. If enacted and properly implemented, SB 724 will provide a vehicle through which highly qualified educational leadership personnel will be prepared. The successful implementation of provisions contained within SB 724 demands that members of the CSU faculty with specific expertise in the advanced preparation of professional educators and related professional standards, provide guidance and expertise during the development of principles and procedures for program design, development, approval and implementation.

Approved Unanimously – September 16, 2005
Consideration of the Ed.D. in the California State University System

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of the California State University (CSU) request the cooperation of the Chancellor and Board of Trustees to develop jointly a legislative proposal for the CSU to offer independent Ed.D. degrees; and be it further

RESOLVED: That any Academic Senate CSU support for development and implementation of Ed.D. programs be contingent upon first securing funding for existing graduate programs based on the definition of a graduate full-time equivalent student (FTES) being 12 units and supplemental funding for the Ed.D. programs; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate CSU affirm that Ed.D. programs offered by the CSU must be developed and approved by faculty through regular governance processes (including the campus academic senates) on the individual campuses that will offer Ed.D. degrees and that any proposed program must meet the appropriate standards for such applied doctoral programs.

RATIONALE: The California Postsecondary Education Commission (CPEC) (2000 Report) and California legislators (SB 713, introduced) have cited a need for educating school administrators and Community College teachers and administrators at the level of the doctorate of education. As the system of public higher education with a highly qualified faculty that educates and certifies most of California’s schoolteachers, the California State University (CSU), with its 23 campuses across the State, is well positioned to provide access to Ed.D. programs of high quality and at reasonable cost to students. The structure and content of such programs will be determined and approved by CSU faculty. The degree programs must have sufficient flexibility to ensure the scholarly development of a broad range of educational leaders in different areas of emphasis including, but not limited to curriculum specialists, community college faculty, educational administrators at all levels, allied health educators, and student services specialists.

The Academic Senate CSU has earlier (in its resolution of 1985) determined that creation of such programs would be contingent upon the securing of funding at a level consistent with high quality. Because existing post-baccalaureate programs in the CSU are underfunded at present, proceeding with planning for any Ed.D. programs must await increased funding of all CSU graduate programs at the level of national norms (e.g., 12 weighted teaching units (WTUs) per FTE/S instead of the present 15 WTUs). The Board of Trustees of the CSU in 1985 declared independent applied doctorates in the field of education, when authorized by the State, as within the mission of the CSU; this element of the CSU mission is to be reiterated in pending Master Plan reports and legislation, which could include specific authorization to provide the Ed.D. degree and/or other independent applied doctorates.

Approved – May 10-11, 2001