

**ACADEMIC SENATE  
OF  
THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY**

AS-3425-20/FA  
May 7-8, 2020

**RESPECTING AND ENGAGING DISCIPLINARY EXPERTISE**

**RESOLVED:** That the Academic Senate of the California State University (ASCSU) acknowledge that respect for disciplinary expertise is at the core of faculty purview over the curriculum; and be it further

**RESOLVED:** That the ASCSU urge Chancellor's Office executives and staff, respecting the ASCSU's Higher Education Employee/Employer Relation Act (HEERA) delineated role as the official voice of the faculty of the CSU, to seek counsel from the disciplinary councils through the ASCSU; and be it further

**RESOLVED:** That the ASCSU assert the need for deference to discipline-based councils in the CSU system on matters of academic area, field, methods and standards embedded in pedagogical approaches that ensure student success and reasonable time to degree; and be it further

**RESOLVED:** That the ASCSU engage with disciplinary council expertise on matters of area and field breadth impacting specific disciplines; and be it further

**RESOLVED:** That the ASCSU distribute this resolution to CSU Board of Trustees, CSU Chancellor, CSU campus Presidents, CSU campus Senate Chairs, CSU Council on Ethnic Studies, CSU English Council, CSU Math Council, CSU Provosts/Vice Presidents of Academic Affairs, California Faculty Association (CFA), and the CSU Emeritus and Retired Faculty & Staff Association (CSU-ERFSA).

**RATIONALE:** *Faculty purview over curriculum rests on the unique knowledge and expertise of faculty in their discipline. As disciplinary experts, both in the knowledge base of the discipline and in effective pedagogic strategies for dissemination of that knowledge, we expect our counsel on matters concerning that discipline to be heeded. The Quantitative Reasoning Task Force (QRTF) and ASCSU engaged in what was perceived as appropriate respect for disciplinary expertise by consulting, both formally and frequently, with the Math Council. Likewise, the English Council is consulted as a matter of courtesy on issues with teaching English or writing. However, the recent activities with respect to an Ethnic Studies*

*requirement did not include formal consultation with the Ethnic Studies Council. We believe that to have largely been an artifact of the impending AB 1460 and the timing of both ASCSU and Chancellor's Office work and actions. Regardless of those issues, it is clear that our Ethnic Studies colleagues did not feel respected or engaged with. This resolution is an attempt to highlight the need for such respect and engagement and hopefully provides guidance as we move forward.*

**Approved - May 7-8, 2020**