

**ACADEMIC SENATE
OF
THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY**

AS-3461-20/AA (Rev)
November 5-6, 2020

**ONGOING COLLABORATION ON ETHNIC STUDIES IN THE
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY**

- RESOLVED:** That the ASCSU affirm that the statement of the Core Competencies required by AB 1460 developed jointly by the California State University Council on Ethnic Studies (CSUCES), the California State University Office of the Chancellor (CO) and the Academic Senate of the California State University (ASCSU) be considered a starting point for continued collaboration between the CSUCES, the CO and the ASCSU; and be it further
- RESOLVED:** That the ASCSU note that because the Core Competencies will be instantiated in student learning outcomes, campuses, guided by appropriate disciplinary deference to Ethnic Studies faculty, may implement the Core Competences through student learning outcomes appropriate to their campus, and using campuses' established curricular approval processes, without negating the spirit and intent of the Core Competences or AB 1460; and be it further
- RESOLVED:** That the ASCSU distribute this resolution to the CSU Chancellor, CSU Council on Ethnic Studies, CSU campus Senate Chairs, and the CSU Provosts/Vice Presidents of Academic Affairs.

***RATIONALE:** On November 4th, 2020, at an AB 1460 collaboration meeting between representatives from the CSUCES, the CSUCO and members of the ASCSU Academic Affairs committee, there was a consensus around the need for, and more importantly the benefit of, ongoing dialog around the Ethnic Studies Core Competences and the teaching of Ethnic Studies in general. The intent of this resolution is to institutionalize the collaboration between the Ethnic Studies faculty, the ASCSU and Chancellor's Office, establishing an ongoing collaboration rather than it being the 'one-off' consultation called for in AB 1460 and in so doing, goes beyond the requirement of AB 1460. It is hoped that such collaboration might take a similar form to that between the Math Council, The Chancellor's Office and the ASCSU.*

It was also noted that the language of AB 1460 calls for a collaboration between the CSUCES, the Chancellor's Office and the ASCSU to establish system-wide core competences, not student learning outcomes. That distinction is important in that it affords a degree of campus flexibility that many campuses have been requesting in the campus Senate resolutions, passed and shared with the ACSCU in the run-up to its November 2020 meeting.

That flexibility, however, needs to be tempered, as the second resolved clause of this resolution does, such that is it not used as a "get out of jail free" card; to that end it is stipulated that

individuated campus implementations of the Core Competences, something requested by the CSUCES in prior communications with the ASCSU, remain under the purview of the campus Ethnic Studies faculty. Moreover, as the second resolved makes clear, that flexibility is not boundless, but must adhere to the spirit and intent of the core competences and of AB 1460 more broadly.

Finally, it should also be noted that that flexibility does not impede student transfer between the Community Colleges and the CSU or between CSU campuses since that “interoperability” will be determined by the adherence to the system-wide core competences. So long as campus adaptations remain within the spirit and intent of the core competences and approved by Ethnic Studies disciplinary experts, a course with slightly different learning outcomes on one campus can be reliably construed as meeting the intent of the Ethnic Studies requirement and AB 1460 at all CSU campuses.

Approved – January 21-22, 2021