

Academic Senate CSU
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF RESOLUTIONS ACADEMIC SENATE CSU PLENARY – MAY 15-16, 2014

The system-wide Academic Senate (ASCSU) met at the Chancellor's Office in Long Beach last week and approved the following resolutions.

Advice Regarding Unit Limit Exception Requests (AS-3166-14/AA)

The Academic Senate CSU reaffirms its recommendation (AS-3158-14/AA) urging the Board of Trustees to amend Title 5 to re-establish appropriate unit limits for engineering degrees. In the past, Title 5 set the unit limit for engineering at 140 semester units. Board action reduced the limit for all BA/BS degrees to 120 semester units. We recommend engineering degrees be limited to 132 semester units, consistent with other program exceptions currently included in Title 5.

Although Title 5 permits exception requests to the 120 unit limit, consultation with campuses showed that requests were not permitted to go forward from some campuses. In other cases, a different unit limit than 120 was set at the campus for the exception requests. Although some campuses submitted exception requests over a year ago, to our knowledge none have been granted. AS-3166-14/AA provides advice on the review of exception requests.

Creation of California State University Discipline Councils (AS-3167-14/APEP/AA)

Academic discipline councils are generally composed of department chairs of a given discipline from the CSU campuses. The Academic Senate urges the Chancellor's Office to facilitate formation of academic discipline councils to support intra-and inter-system efforts such as SB 1440 transfer degrees, Early Start Program, and CourseMatch. Such meetings can also enable the sharing of best practices beyond the curriculum, such as facilities, equipment, safety, and faculty recruitment.

Designation and Compilation of Course Modalities (AS-3169-AA)

The Academic Senate recommends that a modality designation be attached to every course taught in the CSU by fall 2016. An array of instructional modalities is now used in the CSU. Additionally, the CourseMatch program and increasing availability of online courses in the CSU facilitate greater numbers of students taking courses at CSU campuses other than their own. Six designations are suggested, based on a review of existing campus policies and practices.

Recommendations Regarding Changes to Title 5, Section 40510, The Master's Degree (AS-3171-14/AA)

The ASCSU Academic Affairs Committee was asked to review three changes relating to Title 5, Section 40510. We believe the proposed changes are prudent and strengthen the rigor of CSU master's degrees.

CSU Campuses

Bakersfield
Channel Islands
Chico
Dominguez Hills
East Bay

Fresno
Fullerton
Humboldt
Long Beach
Los Angeles
Maritime Academy

Monterey Bay
Northridge
Pomona
Sacramento
San Bernardino
San Diego

San Francisco
San José
San Luis Obispo
San Marcos
Sonoma
Stanislaus

In Support of AB 2324 (Williams) Pertaining to CSU Faculty Trustee (AS-3172-14/EX)

AB 2324 (Williams) provides for a faculty trustee holdover appointment when a successor faculty trustee appointment is delayed. We appreciate the inclusion of AB 2324 on the CSU Legislative Program and request members of CSU community to register support for it as it moves through the legislative process.

Eligibility Status for Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity Awards (AS-3173-14/FA)

This program supports activities that contribute to faculty teaching and student success. The Academic Senate commends the Board for reinstatement of the program and encourages campuses to make faculty of all ranks (lecturers, assistant, associate, and full professors) eligible for such awards.

ASCSU Calendar of 2014-15 Meetings (AS-3174-14/EX)

This resolution establishes calendar for Academic Senate CSU meetings in 2014-15.

FIRST READING WAIVER ITEMS ACTED UPON

The Academic Senate waived the first reading and acted upon the following resolutions at the May 15-16, 2014 plenary.

Formation of a Task Force to Review the Role of Student Success Fees across California State University Campuses (AS-3175-14/FGA)

Questions have been raised about Student Success Fees proliferating this year across the CSU. The Academic Senate identifies a number of concerns and encourages formation of a task force to undertake a system-wide assessment of the role of such fees, including review of Executive Order 1054 California State University Fee Policy.

Request for Annual Progress Reports on Access to Excellence Strategic Plan through 2018 (AS-3178-14/EX)

The ten-year CSU strategic plan, *Access to Excellence*, was adopted by the Board in 2008. The plan included eight goals/commitments and an Accountability Plan with performance quality indicators. Given that the half-way point of the strategic plan has passed, the Academic Senate recommends an annual assessment of progress toward achieving each of the eight goals using an appropriate number of performance indicators selected in consultation with faculty.

COMMENDATIONS OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE

Commendation in Honor of Trustee A. Robert Linscheid (AS-3168-14/EX)

Resolution upon the Retirement of Gail Brooks, Vice Chancellor for Human Resources at the California State University (AS-3176-14/EX)

Resolution of Commendation for James Till, Interim Assistant Vice Chancellor for Research Initiatives and Partnerships (AS-3177-14/FA)

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The ASCSU website includes committee information, approved agendas/minutes, reports, resolutions, and contact information. <http://www.calstate.edu/AcadSen/?source=homepage>.

Faculty-to-Faculty, the ASCSU newsletter, is published following each plenary meeting (five times per year). The newsletter includes the chair's report, committee reports, invited articles on current events, and committee recommendations. To receive an electronic notification when each issue is available, subscribe at <http://www.calstate.edu/AcadSen/Newsletter/>

The [Outstanding Faculty of the California State University](#) website is maintained by the Academic Senate CSU and the Chancellor's Office. Visit the website to meet the faculty honored at each of the 23 CSU institutions for their contributions to the research/scholarship/creative activities, teaching, and service mission of the university.

ABOUT THE ACADEMIC SENATE CSU

*The **Academic Senate CSU** is the official voice of the faculty in matters of system-wide concern. The Academic Senate CSU provides the means for the faculty to participate in the collegial form of governance, which is based on historic academic traditions and recognized by California law. The primary purpose of the Academic Senate is to promote academic excellence in the California State University. www.calstate.edu/AcadSen*