Response to the ASCSU Call for Feedback on the ICAS Cal-GETC Proposal

WHEREAS: We recognize the motivation and intent of the legislation, and recognize that removing barriers to transition from the community colleges to a four-year program into the CSU or the UC is a critical element of on-time graduation and student success for transfer students; and

WHEREAS: The Higher Education Employee Relations Act (HEERA), section 3561, acknowledges that curriculum is the purview of the faculty; and

WHEREAS: Without consultation with the faculty at large, the California Legislature approved, and the CSU Chancellor’s Office condoned, AB 928; and

WHEREAS: AB 928 will legislatively impose a reduction in the General Education Transfer pathway; and

WHEREAS: The reduction in the General Education Transfer pathway will result in lost knowledge prior to transfer that will negatively impact student success; and

WHEREAS: Skills and knowledge acquired in the General Education curriculum are critical for success in major and upper division courses at the California State University and the University of California; and

WHEREAS: The proposed Cal-GETC GE Pathway would remove 3 units from the Arts and Humanities and 3 units from Lifelong Learning and Self Development in the CSU GE Breadth; and

WHEREAS: In this era of deep cultural divide, we believe that the empathy and knowledge discovered in the study of Arts and Humanities are an invaluable aspect of a Liberal Arts education in the California State University; and

WHEREAS: In efforts to provide students with the skills for success beyond the university setting, we believe that Lifelong Learning and Self Development are crucial components of a Liberal Arts education in the California State University; and

WHEREAS: Consultation with our campus constituents to consider alternate General Education pathways that will ensure foundational competencies are embedded in the curriculum is limited given time constraints; and
WHEREAS: On April 21, our Academic Senate approved the resolution, “Opposition of the Second Read of Academic Senate of the California State University Resolution AS3530-22/APEP/AA” that expressed our concerns about the feedback timeline; and

WHEREAS: In a CSU webinar, absent of consultation with CSU faculty, a Chancellor’s Office representative indicated that the CSU General Education Breadth Requirements would be aligned with the transfer model curriculum developed after AB 928; therefore be it

RESOLVED: We strongly recommend preserving the integrity of a well-rounded Liberal Arts education by maintaining all competencies and learning outcomes of the current General Education curriculum; and

RESOLVED: If the Cal-GETC proposal is approved we recommend prohibiting double counting of American Institutions courses in GE Areas C and D; and

RESOLVED: We object to the legislative intrusion as evidenced by the passage of AB 928; and

RESOLVED: We cannot endorse a legislatively imposed reduction in the General Education Transfer pathway that suffered from an absence of faculty consultation prior to signing by the Governor; and

RESOLVED: We therefore object to the adoption of the proposed Cal-GETC model of General Education Transfer pathway; and

RESOLVED: We have not come to a consensus on a General Education Transfer Curriculum that conforms to the requirements of AB 928; and

RESOLVED: We support broad and meaningful consultation between CSU faculty and all stakeholders before changes are made to CSU General Education Breadth; and

RESOLVED: That this resolution be distributed to:
CSU Chancellor,
CSU Provosts,
The Intersegmental Committee of the Academic Senates,
The Academic Senate of the CSU,
CSU Campus Senates,
Academic Senates of the CCC,
Academic Senates of the UC,
And Governor Gavin Newsom.