



Academic Senate Approved: 10/22/2020

Resolution in Opposition to the Chancellor’s Implementation of Ethnic Studies (AB 1460)

WHEREAS: Governor Newsom signed AB 1460 into law on August 17, 2020 providing an explicit pathway for an Ethnic Studies requirement in the California State University (CSU); and

WHEREAS: in opposition to AB 1460, the Chancellor’s Office proposed to the CSU Board of Trustees a new General Education Area F of Ethnic Studies and Social Justice and a simultaneous reduction of Area D Social Sciences by 3 units; and

WHEREAS: The Board of Trustees approved said proposal at their July 2020 meeting; and

WHEREAS: On September 10, 2020, the Chancellor’s Office issued a memo requiring campuses to implement the new General Education requirement, “Area F,” mandating that the ethnic studies requirement be lower division; and

WHEREAS: Campuses have already experienced tumultuous GE changes in the recent past due to E.O. 1100 (Revised); and

WHEREAS: Campuses are strained by contingent emergencies including, but not limited to, the COVID-19 global pandemic, wildfires and other climate-based natural disasters, and an economic downturn affecting State allocations; and

WHEREAS: Campus faculty are the experts in designing and executing curriculum and Africana Studies, American Indian Studies, Asian American Studies, and Chicana/o Studies faculty are experts in Ethnic Studies; and

WHEREAS: The CSU Chancellor’s Office memo issued on September 10, 2020, specifies an impossible timeline to ensure appropriate collaboration as required by AB-1460, consultation, deliberation, and conversation among Ethnic Studies faculty and other campus faculty on the design, construction, and student-centered implementation of Ethnic Studies; and

WHEREAS: There has not been enough time for appropriate consultation within the CSU Council on Ethnic Studies (CES) on all aspects of AB 1460 and Title V changes; and

WHEREAS: AB-1460 does not specify the Ethnic Studies course be a GE requirement; and

WHEREAS: AB-1460 does not specify the Ethnic Studies course be an upper-division or lower- division course; and



WHEREAS: Reducing the Social Sciences by 3 units diminishes the breadth of a liberal arts education, is antithetical to educating an informed citizenry, and is indefensible in light of the CSU's mission to advance and extend knowledge and learning throughout California and prepare significant numbers of educated and responsible people to contribute to California's future; and

WHEREAS: The letter of September 24, 2020, from the CES Steering Committee makes very clear that the statutorily mandated collaboration with the CES did not take place, and that reports of said consultation presented to ASCSU and the Board of Trustees were clearly inaccurate; and

WHEREAS: The CES and the California Faculty Association have voiced strong system-wide opposition to Title V as the means of implementing AB 1460; and

WHEREAS: Other CSU campuses, including CSU Northridge, CSU San Marcos, Humboldt State, San Francisco State, CSU Dominguez Hills, Cal Poly Pomona, CSU Stanislaus, and CSU Monterey Bay, have also put forth resolutions in opposition to the changes to Title V by the Board of Trustees and the Chancellor's Office proposal, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of California State University, Chico requests that the CSU Board of Trustees and Chancellor's Office rescind their Title V changes of July 2020 and pull their impending Title V changes from the November Board of Trustees agenda, and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of California State University, Chico requests that the Chancellor's Office refrain from imposing additional criteria and timelines not included in the text of AB 1460 upon an Ethnic Studies graduation requirement, and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of California State University, Chico requests that the Chancellor's Office and ASCSU engage in the genuine collaboration with the CES and Ethnic Studies faculty required by AB 1460, and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of California State University, Chico urge the Academic Senate of the California State University (ASCSU) to rescind or revise, based on the results of genuine consultation, AS-3438-20/AA, Recommended Core Competencies for Ethnic Studies: Response to California Education Code 89032; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of California State University, Chico urge the Chancellor's Office to reaffirm the primacy of faculty over curriculum matters as recognized in the Higher Education Employer-Employee Act of the State of California (HEERA) and the foundational



documents of the CSU and further to charge the campuses of the CSU with ensuring that shared governance deliberations provide for genuine consultation with the Ethnic Studies faculty in curricular matters involving the Ethnic Studies requirement, and be it further,

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of California State University, Chico requests that Tribal Sovereignty be explicitly and intentionally distinguished from race and ethnicity in all implementation of AB 1460 as to accurately and respectfully honor the nation to nation relationships that the present-day United States of America has with Tribal governments, and be it further

RESOLVED: That the ASCSU senators representing the Academic Senate of California State University, Chico ask for and advocate for these resolution clauses singly and all together, and be it finally

RESOLVED: That this resolution be distributed to:
Chancellor Timothy White,
Chancellor Select Joseph Castro,
CSU Board of Trustees,
CSU Executive Vice Chancellor Loren Blanchard,
CSU, Chico President Gayle Hutchinson,
CSU, Chico Provost Debra Larson,
ASCSU Chair Robert Keith Collins,
CSU Council on Ethnic Studies,
CSU Council of Academic Senate Chairs,
California Faculty Association,
Deans and Chairs of CSU, Chico,
CSU, Chico ad hoc Ethnic Studies Subcommittee, and
All faculty of CSU, Chico.