Sacramento State Ethnic Studies Resolution In Opposition to Chancellors Proposed Implementation of AB 1460, Acknowledgement of

The Faculty Senate acknowledges the Department of Ethnic Studies resolution in opposition to Chancellors proposed implementation of AB 1460.

Sacramento State Ethnic Studies Resolution In Opposition to Chancellors Proposed Implementation of AB 1460

WHEREAS, Governor Newsom signed AB 1460 into law on August 17, 2020 providing an explicit Ethnic Studies requirement in the CSU, and

WHEREAS, AB1460, Section 1a states that "Ethnic studies programs have come about from students of color demanding them. On November 6, 1968, a coalition of student groups at San Francisco State University demanded that the university institute an ethnic studies program."

and

WHEREAS, AB1460 Section 2b states that Ethnic Studies is a discipline with a "special focus on four historically defined racialized core groups: Native Americans, African Americans, Asian Americans, and Latina and Latino Americans." and

WHEREAS, AB1460 Section 2b states “The California State University shall collaborate with the California State University Council on Ethnic Studies [CSUCES] and the Academic Senate of the California State University [ASCSU] to develop core competencies to be achieved by students who complete an ethnic studies course pursuant to implementation of this section. The council and the academic senate shall approve the core competencies before commencement of the 2021–22 academic year.” and

WHEREAS, the Academic Senate of Sacramento State is in opposition to the Chancellor’s Office’s interpretation of AB1460 which proposed to the CSU Board of Trustees a new General Education Area F of the Ethnic Studies and Social Justice and a simultaneous reduction of Area D by 3 units; and

WHEREAS, the CSU 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 are strained by contingent emergencies including, but not limited to—the COVID-19 global pandemic, wildfires and other climate-based natural disasters, and economic downturn effecting state allocations; and
WHEREAS, campus Ethnic Studies faculty are the experts in designing and executing curriculum; and

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

WHEREAS, there has not been enough time for appropriate consultation within the CSU Council of Ethnic Studies 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, the Ethnic Studies faculty at Sacramento State oppose placing the requirement solely in lower division and in General Education; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate of Sacramento State asks the CSU Chancellor’s Office to rescind their Title V July 2020 changes; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate of Sacramento State ask that the leadership of the ASCSU and the Chancellor’s Office rescind their acceptance of the Ethnic Studies core competencies until the CSU Council on Ethnic Studies has met with CSU Ethnic Studies Department or Program experts, to discuss, vet, and officially approve the proposed Student Learning Outcomes (core competencies),

RESOLVED, that students be given flexibility in meeting the Ethnic Studies requirement with either lower division or upper division courses,

RESOLVED, that the CSU Chancellor’s Office rescind its GE plan because it does not have the authority to restrict this Ethnic Studies requirement to be a GE and be subjected to GE regulations,

RESOLVED, that the timeline for implementation be extended to allow for effective and genuine collaboration between the ASCSU and Ethnic Studies faculty as defined in AB 1460, and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Resolution be distributed to Chancellor Timothy P. White, Executive Vice Chancellor Loren J. Blanchard, Sacramento State President Robert Nelsen, ASCSU Chair Robert Keith Collins, CSU Council on Ethnic Studies, Council of Academic Senate Chairs, California Faculty Association Sacramento State Chapter President, Respective Sacramento State Deans and Chairs and the Department of Ethnic Studies; and be it further

RESOLVED, that we recognize and extend appreciation to Ethnic Studies colleagues at CSU Northridge and American Indian Studies and Ethnic Studies colleagues at CSU San Marcos for the Resolution template.