

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, BAKERSFIELD
ACADEMIC SENATE

Upper Division General Education Requirement
2012-2013 RES003

EC

RESOLVED: that the CSU Bakersfield Academic Senate request that the CSU Board of Trustees Committee on Educational Policy withdraw agenda item three regarding the upper-division general education from consideration until the Chancellor's General Education Advisory Committee, campus faculties, and campus senates can provide feedback.

Distribution: This resolution shall be distributed to the Board of Trustees, Assistant Vice-Chancellor Mallon, Campus Presidents, Provosts/Vice Presidents for Academic Affairs, and Campus Senate Chairs.

Rationale

Section 3561 of HEERA recognizes the importance of joint decision making and consultation between administration and faculty, especially on all curricular matters. At the same time, the General Education Advisory Committee (GEAC) was established specifically for the purpose of advising the Chancellor on all matters related to General Education. The consideration of the upper-division general education requirement by the Board of Trustees without any prior consultation of faculty through GEAC or any other avenue violates the tenets of shared governance and the recommendations of the Board of Trustees on Governance and Collegiality which states "Central to collegiality and shared decision-making is respect for differing opinions and points of view, which welcomes diversity and actively sponsors its opinions."

Additionally, the Board's own statement on governance indicates that "Collegial governance assigns primary responsibility to the faculty for the educational functions of the institution in accordance with basic policy as determined by the Board of Trustees. This includes admission and degree requirements, the curriculum and methods of teaching, academic and professional standards, and the conduct of creative and scholarly activities. Collegiality rests on a network of interlinked procedures jointly devised, whose aim is to assure the opportunity for timely advice pertinent to decisions about curricular and academic personnel matters.

The governing board, through its administrative officers, makes sure that there is continual consultation with appropriate faculty representatives on these matters. Faculty recommendations are normally accepted, except in rare instances and for compelling reasons."

Approved by the Senate on September 13, 2012

Sent to the President for informational purposes on October 1, 2012