

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, BAKERSFIELD  
ACADEMIC SENATE

**180 Unit Degree Requirement  
2012-2013 RES007**

EC

**RESOLVED:** that the CSU Bakersfield Academic Senate requests the CSU Board of Trustees Committee on Educational Policy to withdraw from its agenda the item entitled "Upper Division General Education and Degree Completion" that proposes to add a 120 semester/180 quarter unit cap for undergraduate degree programs to Title V of the Education Code.

**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 with regard to curricular matters. This proposal abrogates the primacy of the role of faculty in curricular matters. Faculty members who have successfully achieved advanced degrees in their respective disciplines are the best judges of the requirements necessary to ensure adequate preparation in the skills and knowledge encompassed by specific disciplines. Faculty members are also the most qualified judges of the general skills and knowledge that prepare students for good citizenship, flexibility in seeking careers and in leading a fulfilling life.

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 October 4, 2012

Sent to the President for informational purposes on October 11, 2012