

**CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, BAKERSFIELD**

**ACADEMIC SENATE**

CSUB Academic Senate / Rejection of the General Education Task Force Proposal

RES 181912

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate at CSU, Bakersfield, oppose implementation of the recommendations of the California State University General Education Task Force; and be it further,

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate at CSU, Bakersfield, strongly recommend that the CSU Chancellor's Office and the Board of Trustees reject the recommendations of the California State University General Education Task Force.

RATIONALE: The CSU General Education Task Force (GETF) was initiated by the Academic Senate CSU (ASCSU), but had insufficient consultation with campus faculty and with CSU discipline councils as to whether the GETF "Recommendations for GE Review and Reform" were necessary or in the best interests of our students.

The GETF proposal states that GE requirements have not been updated in over 50 years, but it ignores how campus implementations are updated regularly by individual campuses to meet the needs of their students and were updated at CSU Bakersfield after a multi-year process of revision that concluded three years ago.

That while the GETF rationale cites "mounting concerns about the erosion of confidence in the value of higher education, higher costs of education borne increasingly by students, attenuated times to degree completion, and low persistence rates," the report gives no data showing how these "concerns" are tied to the current GE requirements, nor does it indicate how the new recommendations will solve any of these problems.

The proposed GETF vision makes further cuts to humanities, social sciences, lifelong learning and self-development, and other areas essential to a well-rounded education and civic engagement, which have high social value based on empirical studies; The replacement of six units of American Government and U.S. History

requirement with 3 units of an ambiguous “Democracy in the U.S.” course – which *may or may not* include California Government – is antithetical to educating an informed citizenry.

The recommendation to eliminate “double counting” of courses will make it nearly impossible for accredited programs to meet minimum accreditation requirements and the proposed general education requirements within 120 overall semester units.

Distribution List:

The President of California State University, Bakersfield  
The Interim Provost of California State University, Bakersfield  
The Deans of California State University, Bakersfield  
The Department Chairs of California State University, Bakersfield  
The Academic Senates of the twenty-three campuses  
The Chair of the Academic Senate of the California State University  
The Chancellor of the California State University  
The Board of Trustees of the California State University

Approved by the Senate April 25, 2019