RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate (AS) of CSU, Bakersfield, strongly recommend that the Board of Trustees (BOT) rescind their July 2020 Title V changes; and be it further,

RESOLVED: That the AS of CSU, Bakersfield endorse the resolutions of several other CSU campus senates opposing the Chancellor’s Office (CO) AB 1460 Implementation Plan; and be it further,

RESOLVED: That the AS of CSU, Bakersfield strongly recommend the CO consider extending the deadline for campus implementation of the AB 1460 requirement, while adhering to the deadline established by AB 1460, so as to allow for true and effective collaboration between the CO, Academic Senate of CSU (ASCSU), and the CSU Council on Ethnic Studies (CSUCES), as well as CSU campuses; and be it further,

RESOLVED: That the AS of CSU, Bakersfield strongly urge that the CO give each CSU campus autonomy in the implementation of AB 1460 to allow for campus-specific appropriate curricular implementation of the requirement; and be it further,

RESOLVED: That the AS of CSU, Bakersfield, oppose the CO and the BOT interpretation of AB 1460 requiring the creation of a new General Education Area F and a simultaneous reduction in Area D units; and be it further,

RESOLVED: That the AS of CSU, Bakersfield propose that, consistent with campus autonomy, campuses be free to structure the requirement to allow students the flexibility to meet the Ethnic Studies requirement with either lower division or upper division courses; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the AS of CSU, Bakersfield urge the leadership of the ASCSU and the CO to rescind the proposed Ethnic Studies core competencies until such time as a genuine collaboration between the CO, ASCSU, and the CSUCES has occurred.

RATIONALE: In August 2020, Governor Newsom signed into law AB 1460 which stipulates the addition of an ethnic studies graduation requirement. The law adds Section 89032 to the Education Code, which requires that

“commencing with the 2021-22 academic year… the California State University to provide for courses in ethnic studies at each of its campuses. The bill, commencing with students graduating in the 2024-25 academic year, would require the California State University to require, as an undergraduate graduation requirement, the completion of, at minimum, one 3-unit course in ethnic studies, as specified.” AB 1460, Chapter 32
In anticipation of the governor signing AB 1460, the BOT at their July 2020 meeting approved the CO proposal to create a new GE Area F of “Ethnic Studies and Social Justice” and a simultaneous reduction of Area D by 3 units. Subsequently, upon the Governor signing AB 1460, the CO issued a memo amending the new Title V language to remove “Social Justice”. This is to be presented to the BOT at its November 2020 meeting. The CO also issued a memorandum outlining a restrictive timeline for AB 1460 implementation. On October 8, 2020, the CO further issued draft changes to EO 1100 proposing that the new General Education requirement be structured by moving 3 units from GE Area D to the new Area F and mandating that the new requirement be met by Ethnic Studies or Ethnic Studies cross-listed courses. There is no language in AB 1460 which mandates that the Ethnic Studies requirement be in General Education nor that it be met with an upper or lower division course. Academic curriculum, specifically the designing and implementing of curriculum, is the domain of faculty. Thus, it should be left to the faculty to design the curriculum in order to meet the AB 1460 Ethnic Studies requirement. Further, Ethnic Studies (ES) faculty are area experts that should design the core competencies and/or student learning outcomes for the ES requirement. Furthermore, the CO interpretation of AB 1460 would necessitate substantial impacts to many programs at CSU, Bakersfield, requiring time to consider and address those impacts. The CO has created an impossible timeline to ensure appropriate consultation and deliberation in order to design and implement AB 1460 while involving all stakeholders across the campus.

This resolution endorses those from the following CSU campuses, as of the passage of resolution:

1. San Francisco State University
2. CSU Dominguez Hills
3. CSU Northridge
4. CSU Fresno
5. Sacramento State University
6. CSU Stanislaus
7. Humboldt State University
8. CSU San Marcos
9. California Polytechnic University, Pomona
10. CSU Channel Islands
11. Sonoma State University
12. CSU Fullerton
13. CSU Monterey Bay
14. San Jose State University (going to Senate floor 11/9)
15. San Diego State University (going to Senate floor 11/10)

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Approved by the Academic Senate November 12, 2020