ACADEMIC SENATE
Of
CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY
San Luis Obispo, CA

AS-938-22

RESOLUTION ON AB 928 AND COMMON GE PATHWAY

Impact on Existing Policy: None

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 928 (AB 928), the “Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act of 2021: Associate Degree for Transfer Intersegmental Implementation Committee,” was signed into legislation in October 2021; and

WHEREAS, AB 928 requires a common lower-division General Education (GE) transfer pathway that will meet transfer requirements into both the California State University (CSU) and University of California (UC) systems; and

WHEREAS, AB 928 requires the establishment of the “Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates” (ICAS) to develop the common GE pathway for transfer students by May 31, 2023, which is expected to impact IGETC; and

WHEREAS, The Standards, Policies & Procedures for Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum says “...some individual colleges or majors within a UC campus may not accept or recommend Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) to fulfill all of their general education requirements” (UC guidance by campus/college/program); and

WHEREAS, It is likely the ICAS will recommend dropping two lower-division courses from CSU GE policy because the IGETC path for the UC requires only 11 lower-division GE courses for transfer students, unlike its stipulation of 12 courses for the CSU (note that CSU GE Breadth, which requires 13 courses, is different from IGETC in its addition of GE Area E); and
WHEREAS, AB 928 states that the UC Regents have a choice whether to adopt a resolution regarding a singular lower division GE pathway, while the CSU does not have a choice; and

WHEREAS, The CSU has announced that, following the development of the common GE transfer pathway, the CSU will revise its GE breadth requirements by summer 2024 to comply with the common GE transfer pathway; and

WHEREAS, The Academic Senate appreciates that the CSU must comply with AB 928 for transfer students but notes that the CSU does make exceptions for transfer students using coded memoranda; and

WHEREAS, CSU Coded Memorandum ASA-2018-06 ("Systemwide Credit for External Examinations") directs campuses how to award GE credit for AP (Advanced Placement), IB (International Baccalaureate), and CLEP (College-Level Examination Program) exams to GE-certified transfer students; and

WHEREAS, The same Coded Memorandum states “Note that each CSU campus determines how it will apply external examinations toward credit in the major. For students not already certified in General Education (GE) and/or American Institutions, the campus also determines how to apply credit from such exams toward the local degree requirements”; and

WHEREAS, This Coded Memorandum clearly establishes a precedent for CSU campuses to maintain the CSU GE curriculum for fulltime freshmen admits, while also prescribing allowances for transfer students’ seamless articulation of GE credits; and

WHEREAS, Cal Poly also currently waives CSU Area E for IGETC-certified transfer students by using an additional GE course; and

WHEREAS, The Academic Senate is committed to improving transfer pathways for transfer students both through GE and by rethinking, where possible, major-required lower-division courses not generally available at community colleges; therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate urge the Office of the Chancellor to satisfy AB 928 compliance requirements via a 12-course IGETC pathway or, alternatively, via coded memorandum that exempts prospective transfer students from taking all 12 IGETC lower-division courses and, instead, deems them to be transfer ready with only 11 lower-division courses; and be it further
RESOLVED: That this resolution be forwarded to the Office of the Chancellor, all CSU Academic Senate Chairs, and the Academic Senate Statewide Executive Committee.

Proposed by: General Education Governance Board
Date: March 18, 2022

1 (1) Describe how this resolution impacts existing policy on educational matters that affect the faculty. Examples include curricula, academic personnel policies, and academic standards.
(2) Indicate if this resolution supersedes or rescinds current resolutions.
(3) If there is no impact on existing policy, please indicate NONE.
MEMORANDUM

To: Thomas Gutierrez  
Chair, Academic Senate

From: Jeffrey D. Armstrong  
President

Date: July 19, 2022

Copies: Amy Fleischer  
Damon Fleming  
Bruno Giberti  
Cynthia Jackson-Elmoore  
Dustin Stegner  
Cem Sunata  
Christine Theodoropoulos  
Andy Thulin  
Dean Wendt  
Philip Williams

Subject: Response to AS-938-22 Resolution on AB 928 and Common GE Pathway

By way of this memo, I acknowledge the above-entitled Academic Senate resolution.

This resolution urges the Office of the Chancellor to satisfy AB 928 via a 12-course GE pathway. The Special Committee on AB 928 has in fact recommended a singular GE transfer pathway of 11 courses, not counting the laboratory, and totaling 34-semester units. The process will require additional steps, but Cal Poly will implement the final policy approved by the Board of Trustees as a revision to Title 5. First-time and transfer students must satisfy the same lower-division GE requirements.