



CALIFORNIA
STATE
UNIVERSITY,
FRESNO

RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO THE REPORT OF THE TASK FORCE ON GENERAL EDUCATION

Adopted without dissent by the Academic Senate of California State University,
Fresno, on March 26, 2019

WHEREAS a strong General Education curriculum represents the liberal arts tradition on which a university education has historically been based; and,

WHEREAS the existing General Education program has worked very well for providing our students with a liberal arts-based education at California State University, Fresno (hereafter referred to as Fresno State); and,

WHEREAS the concept of Academic Freedom should extend to the rights of individual campuses to craft General Education programs that fit the profiles of their student body and reflect the values and expertise of their faculty; and,

WHEREAS Fresno State is still struggling to comply with the arbitrary dictates of Executive Order 1100 forcing us to strip 3 units related to multiculturalism and international studies from our General Education program and double count GE courses with major requirements; and,

WHEREAS the proposal set forth by the General Education Task Force of the Academic Senate of the California State University proposes compressing all campus General Education programs from 48 units to 42 units, further depriving students of a fundamental liberal arts education; and,

WHEREAS many faculty are particularly concerned with the overall reduction of General Education upper division units; and,

WHEREAS traditional components of General Education, including the American Institutions courses in American and California government and history required by state law would not be accommodated by the 42 unit Task Force proposal, depriving students of fundamental knowledge of their country's and state's history and governing institutions; and,

WHEREAS the Task Force did not include any faculty specialists from programs specifically impacted by their proposal to reduce General Education to 42 units; and,

WHEREAS serious concerns have been raised regarding the secrecy under which this Task Force discussed and wrote their proposal; therefore be it

**Office of the
Academic Senate**

Henry Madden Library 3206
5200 N. Barton Ave. M/S ML34
Fresno, CA 93740-8014
Department 559.278.2743
Fax 559.278.5745
www.FresnoState.edu/academics/senate

RESOLVED that the members of the Academic Senate of the California State University, the Chancellor, and the Board of Trustees reject the Task Force report; and be it

RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees impose at least a five-year moratorium on any state-mandated changes to General Education after the final implementation of Executive Order 1100; and be it

RESOLVED that the Academic Senate of the California State University create a new General Education Task Force composed of faculty experts from all disciplines currently involved in campus GE programs to study potential modifications to the GE program in a spirit of collaboration and transparency; and be it

RESOLVED that the results of this Task Force be sent to senates on the twenty-three campuses for input and consultation before any final report is released or recommendations made to the Chancellor and the Board of Trustees; and be it

RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to:

The President of California State University, Fresno
The Provost of California State University, Fresno
The Deans of California State University, Fresno
Department Chairs of California State University, Fresno
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