



DESIGNATION CODE: 2012-13 BEC 5

DATE SUBMITTED: October 30, 2012

**TO:** The Academic Senate  
**FROM:** The Executive Committee of the Academic Senate  
**SUBJECT:** Interpretation of “significant changes” in academic programs and courses  
**PURPOSE** Action by the Senate

**ACTION REQUESTED:**

That the Academic Senate approve the interpretation of “significant changes” given below:

For the purposes of interpreting 09-10 CIC 20, the Academic Senate views a course or program change as being “significant” and therefore needing review by CIC, CAPR, and the Academic Senate (as appropriate) if

1. There is a change in teaching format of a program (e.g., it switches from lecture to online; see 08-09 CIC 19).
2. The course or program is changed from state-support to self-support (see 09-10 CIC 6).
3. The course or program changes academic calendars after approval. (Almost every program is presumed to follow the campus’ approved 10-year calendar, which includes provisions for 10 week courses and 5 week courses during the quarter; other calendars must be approved with the course/program.)

While this list is not meant to be exhaustive, it is intended to indicate the Senate’s view on courses and programs that need to be reviewed.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

It has come to the attention of the Executive Committee that numerous courses, and indeed programs, are being moved from state-support to self-support. On its face, this violates 09-10 CIC 6. However, 09-10 CIC 20 indicates that the Senate needs only be involved if there are “significant changes” to a program; course changes need only come to the Senate if there are unresolved issues in the College committee (or implicitly if an out-of-college department objects). The ability of the Senate and its committees to review these changes has been inhibited by the lack of reporting by APGS (05-06 CIC 35 mandates course and program changes be given to CIC and the Senate as information items quarterly; the Senate got such reports yearly for a few years, but has received none since AY 08-09). The Executive Committee is concerned that some changes that the Senate may feel are “significant” have been approved and implemented by APGS without needed Senate notification.