TO: The Academic Senate

FROM: The Committee on Instruction and Curriculum

SUBJECT: 15-16 CIC 5: Recommendation for Institutional Learning Outcome Overlays

PURPOSE: For approval of the Academic Senate.

ACTION REQUESTED: Approval of CIC recommendation to include Institutional Learning Outcome Overlays in the areas of Diversity, Social Justice, and Sustainability as graduation requirements in the semester curriculum

BACKGROUND:
The Academic Senate unanimously approved the Institutional Learning Outcomes (ILOs) for California State University East Bay in 2012. They express a shared, campus-wide articulation of expectations for all degree recipients. They are developed both in the classroom and co-curricular environments.

In spring 2015, the GE subcommittee recommended the development of “overlay” courses in the areas of Diversity, Social Justice, and Sustainability. As the GE subcommittee wrote, “For the past thirty-three years, the Cultural Groups and Women (CGW) requirement has effectively introduced students to the current scholarship on race, gender, and sexuality from appropriate disciplinary perspectives. The CGW requirement has worked well, has broad participation by faculty from many programs, and represents one of the most nuanced diversity requirements throughout the CSU and indeed, nationwide. The CGW requirement should be a point of pride for our university.”

RECOMMENDATION:
CIC recommends that the Senate adopt the GE subcommittee recommendation as follows:

To make inclusion of the ILOs in the curriculum more visible and meaningful to our students, our faculty, and our community, the GE Subcommittee recommends 3 ILO linked “overlays” as graduation requirements in the semester curriculum. This recommendation will enhance our general education/graduation requirements, demonstrate our commitment to our diverse students, and develop a curriculum that conveys our institutional learning outcomes.

The recommended overlay requirements can be fulfilled in any approved course (upper or lower division, major, GE, etc.).

The recommended overlays are:

1. Diversity (current CGW overlay)
   - The Diversity overlay will remain the purview of the CGW subcommittee of CIC.
   - In preparation for our conversion to semesters, SLOs will be developed/revised for Diversity by the GE subcommittee of CIC.
2. Social Justice
   - The purpose of the social justice overlay will be to discuss, investigate, analyze, and interpret questions and issues of social justice from appropriate disciplinary perspectives.
   - SLOs for Social Justice will be developed by the GE subcommittee.
   - SLOs will be consistent with the purpose statement above and the relevant ILO competencies.

3. Sustainability
   - The purpose of the sustainability overlay will be to discuss, investigate, analyze, and interpret questions and issues of sustainability from appropriate disciplinary perspectives.
   - SLOs for Sustainability will be developed by the GE subcommittee in order to facilitate processes for course approval and student learning.
   - SLOs will be consistent with the purpose statement above and the relevant ILO competencies.

The GE subcommittee will approve these overlay courses for the semester curriculum. After the University has completed the conversion to semesters the existing CGW subcommittee may be expanded or new committee(s) created to approve courses proposals to meet these overlay requirements.

At this time, the CGW designation is evaluated on an individual basis separately from course credit for transferable courses. It is unclear if this will be possible on the larger scale of 3 overlays. This will need to be determined and processes and procedures will need to be developed to ensure that these requirements do not interfere with timely graduation or with requirements related to Transfer Model Curricula.