TO: The Academic Senate

VIA: Committee on Instruction and Curriculum (CIC)

FROM: General Education Subcommittee

SUBJECT: 16-17 CIC 126 General Education Subcommittee Response to Chancellor’s Office Request for Feedback on EO 1100

PURPOSE: Approval of the Academic Senate

ACTION REQUESTED: That the Senate approve the response to the CO Request so that it may be designated as a “campus-wide response”.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:
The Chancellor’s Office sent out a request for feedback on EO 1100. (The stated deadline on the request was extended into June.) The GE Subcommittee unanimously voted to respond more broadly about general education in the CSU and requests Senate approval so that the response can be designated as a “campus-wide response”. Additional comments from individuals, including members of the Subcommittee, may be added, but will be designated as individual responses.

At its meeting on May 15, 2017, CIC voted unanimously to send this to the Senate.

PROPOSED RESPONSE:
Each campus should continue to maintain a faculty committee structure to translate and interpret the EO for students and instructors. The curriculum is the purview of the faculty who must determine how the GE curriculum should be implemented and assessed consistent with the campus institutional learning outcomes.

The GE Subcommittee of CSUEB stands strongly in support of the liberal education framework as embodied by the LEAP essential learning outcomes. We believe that the disciplinary framework in Article 3, in particular 3.2, of EO 1100, is essential to a meaningful, valuable Baccalaureate Degree. The disciplinary lenses of the liberal arts constitute a central component of fulfilling the mission of the CSU. The students of California deserve access to a high quality, broad and meaningful education which will prepare them to engage in their communities and to
contribute to society. This breadth requirement distinguishes a CSU education from vocational training. We are preparing students to adapt to the ever changing needs of their profession and communities. Our GE program not only aligns with the WASC core competencies\(^1\) but also provides students multiple lenses with which to address the complex challenges of modern life.

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\(^1\) 2.2a of WASC Criteria for Review states, "Undergraduate programs engage students in an integrated course of study of sufficient breadth and depth to prepare them for work, citizenship, and life-long learning. These programs ensure the development of core competencies including, but not limited to, written and oral communication, quantitative reasoning, information literacy, and critical thinking. In addition, undergraduate programs actively foster creativity, innovation, an appreciation for diversity, ethical and civic responsibility, civic engagement, and the ability to work with others. Undergraduate programs also ensure breadth for all students in cultural and aesthetic, social and political, and scientific and technical knowledge expected of educated persons. Undergraduate degrees include significant in-depth study in a given area of knowledge (typically described in terms of a program or major)."

Guidelines: The institution has a program of General Education that is integrated throughout the curriculum, including at the upper division level, together with significant in-depth study in a given area of knowledge (typically described in terms of a program or major).