TO: The Academic Senate
VIA: The Committee on Instruction and Curriculum (CIC)
FROM: General Education Subcommittee
SUBJECT: 16-17 CIC 36: Policy on Cross-listing of General Education Courses
PURPOSE: Approval of the Academic Senate
ACTION REQUESTED: That the Senate approve the following policy for General Education courses. With the President’s approval, effective in Fall, 2018.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:
The University approved the GE “framework” model as described in 14-15 CIC 38. The Framework did not explicitly speak to cross-listed courses in GE as they impact the policy restricting “double counting” to 3 lower division units in the major prefix. However, the General Education Subcommittee has now seen proposals for cross-listed general education courses for semesters. Concerns have been raised that the cross-listings might be used to allow students to count more than the 3 lower division units allowed within the major, provided that they took the other department’s version of the cross-listed course. There was discussion by the subcommittee about not approving any cross-listed courses for general education. However, the subcommittee felt that there are situations wherein cross-listed GE courses serve both departments and/or allow for team-taught interdisciplinary courses that could benefit students. Accordingly, the subcommittee didn’t want to discourage such practices. Nonetheless, there needs to be guidance regarding how such a course will be handled so that it is clear to advisors, students, and faculty. Furthermore, the subcommittee does not want to allow the use of such a course to circumvent the 3 lower division unit limits.

An example of the implementation of the policy below might be as follows. Suppose a student is majoring in X. Department X has a course X 100 that is cross-listed with Y 100. Even if the student enrolls in Y 100, for the purposes of the 3 lower-division in-major GE credit threshold, the course will count for the purposes of GE requirements as though the student took X 100. Furthermore, this policy is set so that upper division cross-listed courses may not count for general education for either department’s majors.

By a vote of 8-1, the General Education Subcommittee recommends passage of this policy to CIC. At its meeting on January 9, 2017, CIC voted 6-3 to recommend this policy to the Senate.

PROPOSED POLICY:
Cross-listed courses involving the student’s major department that also count for general education...
will be considered as though they were taken from the major department, regardless of the prefix(es) listed in the class schedule. That is, the restricting for double counting in the major throughout the framework applies equally to courses that are cross-listed in the major prefix and to those offered in the major prefix.