February 28, 2017

TO: Mark Karplus  
Chair, Academic Senate

FROM: Leroy M. Morishita  
President

SUBJECT: Academic Senate Resolution 16-17 CIC 45, New minor in Astronomy

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Upon review of Academic Senate Resolution 16-17 CIC 45, New minor in Astronomy, I approve the resolution, however with reservation.

The addition of a Minor in Astronomy is a guided, comprehensive way for students interested in Astronomy and Astrophysics to further their studies and expand their employment opportunities. However, the addition of a 21-25 semester unit minor will both increase a student’s cost and time to graduation. Currently, College of Science students who began their freshman year at Cal State, East Bay average 223 units, 43 more than the 180 units required to graduate.

I appreciate the work done by the Academic Senate, and only ask that the requirements of the Graduation Initiative 2025 be considered when adding new programs or reviewing existing programs/minors.

cc: Edward Inch, Provost and Vice President, Academic Affairs