15/AS//17/AS – Sense of the Senate Resolution on CSU Executive Order 1100 General Education Breadth Requirements (as revised August 23, 2017)

Resolved: That the California State University Stanislaus Academic Senate (“Academic Senate”) affirms the value of General Education within a liberal arts education to develop students’ capacities to engage other people, ideas, and ways of understanding the world.; and be it further

Resolved: That the Academic Senate vehemently opposes the imposition of EO 1100; and be it further

Resolved: That the Academic Senate expresses concern that EO 1100 will lead to a narrowing of General Education, and this narrowing will threaten disciplines that directly address issues affecting underrepresented populations, or issues related to diversity, equity, inclusion, and social justice*; and be it further

Resolved: That the Academic Senate asserts that inclusion of “double counting” major program courses as General Education requirements undermines the very purpose of General Education—namely, to ensure that students are exposed to a broad array of knowledge, understanding, and learning that is the core of a liberal arts education; and be it further

Resolved: That the Academic Senate expresses particular concern that changes to GE requirements will require extensive review or revision of all GE courses and many major programs—following upon an immediately prior such extensive revision in compliance with the prior version of Executive Order 1100 (February 2015), and representing a unilateral imposition of greater workload on faculty; and be it further

Resolved: That the Academic Senate conveys its serious concern about the implications of the extensive revisions to GE for lecturers, including work availability and entitlements; and be it further

Resolved: That the Academic Senate further expresses its strong objection to the lack of appropriate shared governance process and unilateral imposition of EO 1100 (Revised), as well as its grave concern about the lack of adequate consultation with statewide and campus faculty

* Stanislaus State University Values Statement
constituencies regarding the significant curricular and resource implications of EO 1100 prior to their adoption; and be it further

Resolved: That the Academic Senate strongly urges Chancellor White to reconsider the implementation of EO 1100 for all CSU campuses until such time that faculty experts have had the opportunity to research and collect and analyze data demonstrating why the indicated revisions are necessary, and the impacts such changes will have on individual campuses and the system as a whole; and be it further

Resolved: That the Academic Senate strongly urge Chancellor White to acknowledge that thoughtful revision to the General Education curriculum requires more than a semester to implement, and any Executive Order indicating such revision should allow no less than 18 months to implement; and be it further

Resolved: That the Academic Senate urges Chancellor White to accord campuses autonomy and flexibility in the adaptation of campus GE programs to the revisions, and grant exceptions to the requirements as needed in order to preserve characteristics of GE programs distinctive to the identity of each campus; and be it further

Resolved: That this resolution be distributed to Chancellor White; Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs Loren Blanchard; the Academic Senate CSU; campus senate chairs; California Assembly members Susan Eggman (District 12), Heath Flora (District 12), and Adam Gray (District 21); California Senate members Tom Berryhill (District 8), Anthony Cannella (District 12), and Cathleen Calgiani (District 5); the Modesto Bee; and the Turlock Journal.

Approved by the Academic Senate on 9/26/17