



Academic Senate

03/AS/19/SEC Resolution Rejecting the Report of the GE Task Force

(Sense of the Senate)

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Stanislaus State reject the General Education Task Force [GETF] report as illegitimate, and as an infringement on both faculty curricular authority and the spirit of shared governance; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Stanislaus State urge the Academic Senate of the California State University [ASCSU] to reject the report and constitute a new GETF and ensure both that its work adhere closely to the stated intents of AS 3271 and also that its work be done openly in the time honoured tradition of genuine shared governance; and be it finally

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Stanislaus State distribute this resolution to the ASCSU and to Senates on the other CSU campuses.

RATIONALE:

This resolution is based on the following considerations:

- The discussions and proceedings resulting in the recent report and recommendations of the GETF were conducted largely behind closed doors.
- The GETF issued only two updates on its proceedings in nearly two years of operation, leaving most CSU faculty unaware of the nature of its discussions and unclear on its timeline for completing its responsibilities.
- The discussions of the GETF involved inadequate consultation with faculty in several disciplines whose expertise would have been relevant to its deliberations and whose programs are significantly impacted by the GETF recommendations.
- There is credible evidence suggesting that one or more members of the Board of Trustees, present at GETF meetings “unofficially” and out of a declared “interest” in its proceedings, unduly influenced its early deliberations.
- The GETF report was released suddenly and unexpectedly just as CSU faculty were beginning to raise serious questions about the process that produced it.
- The GETF report follows quickly on the heels of the revised EO 1100, a change to General Education which itself prompted considerable concern that faculty authority on curricular matters had been abrogated.
- Despite the GETF’s stated commitment to make its work “data driven wherever possible rather than assumption based,” [GETF, “Initial Update from the ASCSU General Education Task Force—March 2018” (March 2018), 4] its deliberations slighted available data, assessments, and IRB-approved student surveys and questionnaires about key GE courses.

Approved by the Academic Senate on 02/26/19