

March 9, 2010

2010 ASCCC Spring Session Resolutions Relating to SB 1440

(Note – these are being distributed in advance of the publication of Area Meeting materials – minor changes may occur as a result)

4.0 TRANSFER AND ARTICULATION

Note: Resolutions 4.01, 4.02, and 4.03 all address the issue of transfer degrees and several had been referred from the Fall 2009 Plenary Session. These three resolutions conflict with each other but are all presented here in order to offer the Academic Senate delegates a variety of options for dealing with this controversial issue. Please note also that some of these resolutions may ask the Academic Senate to overturn previously established positions, a matter that can be raised and considered during resolution discussions and voting.

4.01 S10 Transfer Degree Paul Setziol, De Anza College

Whereas, State legislators have proposed statewide transfer degrees;

Whereas, The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges maintains that the purview of establishing degree definitions in legislation goes against basic higher education principles;

Whereas, The faculty should maintain the right and responsibility to determine graduation degree requirements as specified in Title 5; and

Whereas, Title 5 currently makes no reference to transfer associate degrees;

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges work with the Chancellor's Office to seek a change to Title 5 requiring colleges to offer a transfer associate degree that consists of a minimum of 18 semester units in a major or area of emphasis as locally defined, a transfer general education pattern (e.g., IGETC or CSU GE), and a minimum of 60 transferable semester units; and

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges include in Title 5 language the provision that any local requirements for the degree are to be governed by existing Title 5 language on graduation requirements.

Note: This resolution was referred to the Executive Committee (see Resolution 4.04 R F09) to collect further information and return in Spring 2010.

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**4.02 S10 Response to SB 1440: “Transfer Degree”
Stephanie Dumont, Golden West College, Executive Committee**

Whereas, Senate Bill 1440 (Padilla) as of March 1, 2010 would authorize a community college to award an associate degree in a major or area of emphasis designated “for transfer” to students who complete a minimum of 60 transferable semester units consisting of an approved transfer general education program (e.g., IGETC or CSU GE) and a major or area of emphasis as locally defined and requires colleges that do so to refrain from requiring additional local requirements that are not included in the GE package or the major/area of emphasis;

Whereas, A great deal of support exists in the Legislature and public for the concept of a “transfer degree,” raising the possibility that a bill will move forward that would put California community college degrees in statute rather than in Title 5, and such a bill could require degree standards that could be inconsistent with the Academic Senate positions; and

Whereas, Placing any degree in statute is inappropriate and could effectively lead to legislative curriculum dictates, but making a change in Title 5 regulations would retain control of degrees within the California Community Colleges and codify degrees that many colleges are already awarding;

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges work with the Chancellor’s Office to change Title 5 regulations such that colleges would be permitted to award an associate degree in a major or area of emphasis “for transfer” (e.g., “Psychology for Transfer”) to students who complete at least 60 transferable semester units including a minimum of 18 semester units in a major or area of emphasis that meet the requirements of transfer institutions and a transfer general education pattern, and require the colleges that choose to offer such a degree do not impose any additional local graduation requirements.

Note: This resolution was referred to the Executive Committee (see Resolution 4.03 R F09) to collect further information and return in Spring 2010.

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The following resolution is new:

**4.03 S10 Title 5 Changes Defining a Transfer Associate Degree
Elizabeth Atondo, Counseling, Los Angeles Pierce College, Transfer and
Articulation Committee**

Whereas, The California community colleges have multiple missions, one of which is to prepare our students for transfer, and do an exemplary job of providing transfer students with their lower-division baccalaureate education;

Whereas, Transfer students who complete a minimum of 60 baccalaureate units, including general education and major preparation coursework, are experiencing a delay in reaching their educational goals due to the competitiveness for university admission as well as the disproportionate and excessive fee increases, making a bachelor's degree out of reach for many California community college students;

Whereas, The coursework necessary for upper-division transfer to the California State University and the University of California systems, while including the most rigorous courses offered at the California community colleges, differs from the coursework needed to earn an associate degree, and as a result many transfer students leave the community college system not eligible for an associate degree; and

Whereas, Students, community colleges, universities, legislators and the general public share a desire to minimize unnecessary classes and units and maximize efficiency and wise use of taxpayer resources;

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges work with the Chancellor's Office to enact changes to Title 5 that would define distinct associate degree requirements for students who are attending a California community college preparing to transfer to a UC or CSU campus, and these requirements would include a minimum of 60 baccalaureate units, full certification of the IGETC or CSU GE Plan, and articulated major preparation coursework based on the upper-division transfer admission requirements of the receiving institution; and

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges recommend a policy to local senates to align the courses and units required for Associate Degree transfer majors so as not to exceed the lower-division major requirements at the universities and to refrain from adding any additional local graduation requirements.

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2009 ASCCC Fall Session Resolutions Relating to AB 440

Adopted

**4.02 F09 Maintain Local Autonomy over Degree Requirements
Chris Hill, Grossmont College**

Whereas, Assembly Bill 440 (Beall), in an attempt to remove perceived barriers to transfer for community college students, recently proposed legislation that would remove local autonomy for degrees by placing degree requirements into statute and could effectively lead to legislative curriculum dictates;

Whereas, Placing any degree requirements in statute is in direct contradiction to Education Code §70902(b)(7), which clearly puts responsibility for curriculum and academic standards under the joint responsibility of the local board and the academic senates of a district;

Whereas, Title 5 already grants community colleges the right to develop degrees with a minimum of 60 transferable semester units consisting of an approved transfer general education program (e.g., IGETC or CSU GE) and a major or area of emphasis as locally defined, and allows local colleges the ability to create degree variations that best serve their students' ability to transfer; and

Whereas, The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges previously affirmed its support for local autonomy in several of the 10+1 areas, including curriculum (Resolution 6.02 F03 and 18.03 F07);

Resolved, The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges oppose any legislation that seeks to alter its curriculum, degree, and certificate requirements and reaffirm its support of local autonomy and faculty primacy over the same.

MSC Disposition: Chancellor's Office, Local Senates
Assigned: President

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Referred

4.03 F09 Response to AB 440: “Transfer Degree” Stephanie Dumont, Golden West College, Executive Committee

Whereas, Assembly Bill 440 (Beall) as of July 2, 2009 would authorize a community college to award an associate degree in a major or area of emphasis designated “for transfer” to students who complete a minimum of 60 transferable semester units consisting of an approved transfer general education program (e.g., IGETC or CSU GE) and a major or area of emphasis as locally defined and requires colleges that do so to refrain from requiring additional local requirements that are not included in the GE package or the major/area of emphasis;

Whereas, There is a great deal of support for the concept of a “transfer degree” in the legislature and public, and it is possible that a bill will move forward that would put California community college degrees in statute rather than in Title 5, and such a bill could require degree standards that could be inconsistent with the Academic Senate positions; and

Whereas, Placing any degree in statute is inappropriate and could effectively lead to legislative curriculum dictates, but making a change in Title 5 regulations would retain control of degrees within the California Community Colleges and codify degrees that many colleges are already awarding;

Resolved, The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges work with the Chancellor’s Office to change Title 5 regulations such that colleges would be permitted to offer associate degrees in a major or area of emphasis designated for transfer to students who complete GE (IGETC or CSU GE) and 60 transferable semester units with a minimum of 18 semester units in a major or area of emphasis and require the colleges that do so to refrain from requiring additional local requirements that are not included in the GE package or the major/area of emphasis.

MSR Disposition: Referred to the Executive Committee to collect further information and return in Spring 2010.

4.03.01 F09 Amend Resolution 4.03 F09 Stephanie Dumont, Golden West College

Amend the resolve:

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges work with the Chancellor’s Office to change Title 5 regulations such that colleges would be permitted to award an associate degree in a major or area of emphasis designated “for transfer” (e.g., “Psychology for Transfer”) to students who complete at least 60 transferable semester units including a minimum of 18 semester units in a major or area of emphasis

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that meet the requirements of transfer institutions and a transfer general education pattern, and require the colleges that choose to offer such a degree do not impose any additional local graduation requirements.

MSR Disposition: Referred to the Executive Committee to collect further information and return in Spring 2010.

**4.04 F09 Transfer Degree
Paul Setziol, De Anza College**

Whereas, State legislators have proposed statewide transfer degrees;

Whereas, The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges maintains that the purview of degree definitions in legislation goes against basic higher education principles embedded in past practice;

Whereas, The faculty should maintain the right and responsibility to determine graduation degree requirements as specified in Title 5; and

Whereas, Title 5 currently makes no reference to transfer associate degrees;

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges work with the Chancellor's Office to seek a change to Title 5 requiring the colleges to offer a transfer associate degree; and

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges include in Title 5 language the provision that any local requirements for the degree are to be governed by existing Title 5 language on graduation requirements.

MSR Disposition: Referred to the Executive Committee to collect further information and return in Spring 2010.

**4.04.01 F09 Amend Resolution 4.04 F09
Paul Setziol, De Anza College**

Add second resolve:

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges define a transfer associate degree to be a degree, the successful completion of which certifies that a student meets the requirements for transfer to UC and or CSU.

MSR Disposition: Referred to the Executive Committee to collect further information and return in Spring 2010.