

**Resolution of the San Diego State University Senate:  
Feedback on the Adoption of the California General Education Transfer  
Curriculum (Cal-GETC) to Succeed IGETC**

**WHEREAS:** The San Diego State University Senate (SDSUS) confirm its strong, ongoing commitment to creating an accessible, welcoming transfer process for transfer students; and

**WHEREAS:** In accordance with the request from the Academic Senate of the California State University (ASCSU) to provide feedback on the adoption of the Intersegmental Council of Academic Senates (ICAS)<sup>1</sup> Cal-GETC proposal for a singular GE pattern as required by Assembly Bill 928<sup>2</sup> to streamline transfers to the CSU and UC; and

**WHEREAS:** The SDSUS understands the importance of Cal-GETC and the consequences of faculty not approving a transfer pathway; however SDSUS did not come to consensus about approving the adoption of the Cal-GETC proposal; and

**WHEREAS:** The SDSUS is seriously concerned about Cal-GETC's impact on general education, especially Area C and the humanities; and

**WHEREAS:** The SDSUS acknowledges the assurances from the Chancellor's Office that GE will be treated as a separate issue from AS-928 because it is not included in the legislation<sup>3</sup>; and

**RESOLVED:** That the SDSUS shall oppose any conflation of CSU GE changes or extension of the legal requirement beyond transfer students, because AB928 is silent on CSU first-time, first-year students (freshmen) and GE/campus GE (CSU GE), and be it further

**RESOLVED:** That this resolution be distributed to the ASCSU so that they can provide this feedback to ICAS, which will inform the final transfer curriculum; and be it further

**RESOLVED:** that the SDSUS also distribute this resolution to:

Council of CSU Senate Chairs  
President Adela de la Torre  
Provost Salvator Ochoa  
Interim Chancellor Jolene Koester  
Executive Vice Chancellor Sylvia Alva  
SDSU Associated Students

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<sup>1</sup> The executive committees of the systemwide academic senates of the University of California, California Community Colleges (CCC), and the California State University comprise ICAS: <https://icas-ca.org/>

<sup>2</sup> [https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202120220AB928](https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB928)

<sup>3</sup> EVC Alva memorialized this in a letter to ASCSU Chair Steffel on October 7th 2022.

## **Rationale**

### ***SDSUS Nonconsensus for Approval of Cal-GETC Proposal***

On September 20, 2022, ASCSU Chair Steffel forwarded the request from ASCSU Resolution [AS-3565-22/APEP “Feedback on the Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates \(ICAS\) Cal-GETC Proposal”](#) to senate chairs for each Campus Senate submit feedback to the ASCSU by October 24, 2022, that takes one of the following three positions regarding the ICAS Cal-GETC proposal (June 2022): a) Support the ICAS Cal-GETC proposal (June 2022), b) Recommend specific changes that satisfy the requirements of AB 928, with rationale, c) Unable to come to a consensus.

The SDSU Senate did not come to a consensus about the ICAS Cal-GETC Proposal in time to meet the October 24, 2022 deadline. The response rate for the survey was low and the Senate listserv reflected a great deal of consternation and confusion. The short turnaround time for the survey also made it necessary to discuss these outcomes at the full senate meeting on November 1, 2022.

### ***Background***

Assembly Bill 928 is a law that mandates a set of lower-division GE courses that gives community college students the option to transfer to either the UC or CSU. This law gave the Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates (ICAS) the responsibility to develop and approve a single transfer pathway for transfer students by May 2023. It is important to note that if faculty fail to agree on a pathway, the law requires the CSU, UC, and community college systems’ administrations to develop the pathway, removing the purview of the faculty from this important curricular decision.

During AY 2021-22, ICAS worked to develop the proposed Cal-GETC pathway. Cal-GETC was the best option that they could negotiate because of the constraints that were imposed by the AB-928 legislation. It is a subset of the current transfer curriculum and provides some of what our students need, but by no means fulfills all of the needs of our diverse students.

### ***SDSU ICAS Cal-GETC Proposal Survey Results***

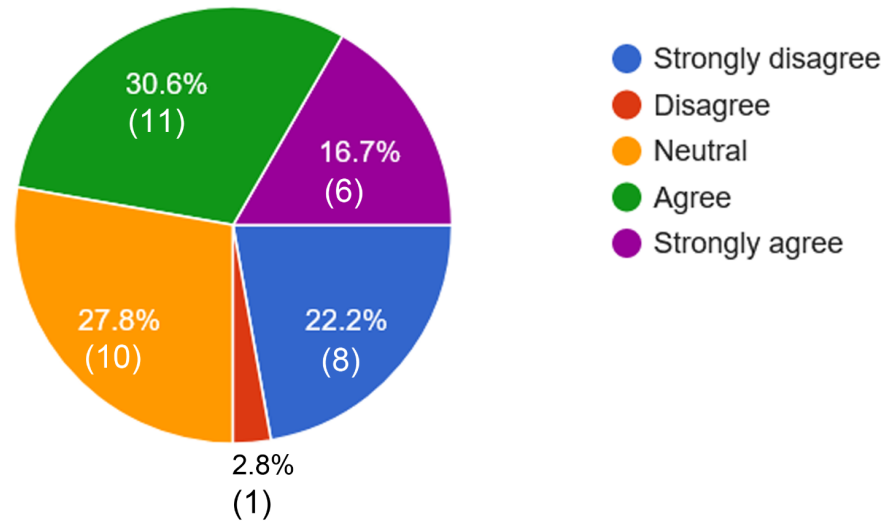
The Senate Office emailed the SDSU ICAS Cal-GETC proposal survey on September 30, 2022 to the senate’s 133-member listserv, with a response deadline of October 21, 2022. Reminders were emailed on October 12th and October 18th. Senators were reminded to solicit feedback from their colleges in response to the ASCSU request for

campus feedback about the ICAS Cal-GETC Proposal. The survey closed on Friday, October 21st at midnight. The response rate was 37% (n=36).

Forty-seven percent (47.3%, n=28) of the respondents indicated that they support the ICAS Cal-GETC Proposal; 25%, strongly disagreed or disagreed:

### A. I support the ICAS Cal-GETC proposal (June 2022).

36 responses



*Themes from qualitative responses included the following concerns and suggestions:*

- Serious concerns about the proposal's impacts on GE curriculum that compound the impact that EO 1100 course reductions had on the arts, languages, history, humanities and other areas that help students become well-rounded, good citizens<sup>4</sup>;
  - *I beg and plea that this change is not implemented - it is a gargantuan and preventable mistake. If you are reading this, you have power to affect change. Don't sit on the sidelines. Do the right thing and fight to keep Arts & Humanities requirements, in full, a part of our education. The impacts of cutting Arts and Humanities requirements will be to generate ever more ethnocentrism, discrimination, implicit bias, lack of critical thinking, and a backsliding of democracy in the U.S. (which is already sliding fairly quickly).*
- Requests to not make any additional cuts in the arts and humanities and instead make cuts in lifelong learning, self-development or other areas in the sciences; Concern that this legislation is eroding faculty purview over the curriculum;
  - *I'm fine with cutting lifelong learning and self development, if 3 core units*

<sup>4</sup> EO1100 Article 2(1)(c) <https://calstate.policystat.com/policy/8919100/latest/#autoid-n2drk>

*need to be cut. In conclusion, I propose they cut 3 units in science, either from life or physical science and cut the 3 units from lifelong learning and self development, but DO NOT cut more units out of the already pared down humanities requirement.*

- Impacts on liberal studies and other programs, undermining student's ability to move into majors that have a lot of units and requirements associated with the specific major;
  - *I am concerned about the impact of this program on Liberal Studies, the CSET waiver program, and access to ITEP programs. This proposed change seems to remove the barriers that students face in transferring to a university. How does this support them in moving into a major like Liberal Studies which has a lot of units and requirements associated with the major?*
- Reduction in units may ease the transfer process and help transfer students focus on other things like research, or participation in transfer student success seminars and support programs.
  - *Standardization and simplification of the pathway from community college will be good for transferring to UC and CSU.*

### ***Conflation of CSU GE Changes or Extension of the Legal Requirement Beyond Transfer Students***

In a March 8, 2022 webinar and in follow-up communications, staff from the Chancellor's Office expressed their desire to reduce and standardize CSU GE for all students, not just transfer students. However, an October 7, 2022 email from Executive Vice Chancellor Sylvia Alva to ASCSU Chair Beth Steffel affirmed that the law does not mandate changes to CSU GE and her strong commitment to shared governance<sup>5</sup>.

Authored by:  
Nola Butler Byrd, Chair

Consultation with:  
University Senate Officers:

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<sup>5</sup> EVC Alva memorialized this in a letter to ASCSU Chair Steffel on October 7th 2022.