



Resolution 23-24/02

February 15, 2024

First Reading Waiver (For/Against/Abstain): 18/0/0

Resolution Vote (For/Against/Abstain): 18/0/0

## Resolution to Maintain Independence of CSU General Education Breadth Requirements

**WHEREAS:** The Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act of 2021 directed ICAS to establish a singular lower-division general education pathway that meets academic requirements for transfer admission to both the California State University (CSU) and University of California (UC) systems; and,

**WHEREAS:** AB 928 aims to streamline the transfer process from the California Community Colleges to *both* the University of California and California State University systems by mandating the replacement of the older (IGETC) - which had different versions depending on whether a student intended to transfer to a UC or a CSU - with the California General Education Transfer Curriculum (Cal-GETC) to create a “singular general education pathway for California Community College students to fulfill lower-division general education requirements” necessary for transfer and admission to both the CSU and the UC; and,

**WHEREAS:** On October 20, 2022, the Cal Maritime Faculty Senate unanimously approved a [resolution](#) in which we clarified “[w]e are only accepting the reduction of 5 units for transfer-bound community college students and in no way is this to be interpreted as applying to the CSU GE pathway;” and

**WHEREAS:** On January 18, the ASCSU passed resolution AS-2666-24/Exec/AA (“Opposition to Changing California State University General Education Breadth at this Time”), which stated that while open to curricular reform, CSU faculty oppose changes to the CSU GE Breadth requirements that lack evidence of meeting CSU students’ educational needs.

**WHEREAS:** On January 18, the ASCSU passed resolution AS-3654-23/APEP (“Transfer Admission Routes to the CSU Outside of Cal-GETC”), and highlighted concerns that eliminating other transfer routes in favor of more stringent Cal-GETC requirements (eg. a grade of C or better in all coursework) could limit access to the CSU, particularly for students who may not meet these higher standards; and

**WHEREAS:** On January 18, the ASCSU passed resolution 3651-23/AA (“A Call for Continuing Collaboration on Title 5 Changes”), which calls for ongoing collaboration between the ASCSU and Chancellor’s Office on the implementation of AB 928 and changes to Title 5; and,

**WHEREAS:** On January 18, 2024, the ASCSU passed resolution 3647-23/AA (“Call for Task Force on CSU General Education”), which calls for more rigorous analysis to understand the implications of changes to CSU GE Breadth, particularly at the lower division, on student success, and calls for a task force to assess the necessity of changes to CSU GE Breadth to consider changes to general education requirements that enhance student learning without compromising academic quality or campus autonomy; and,

**WHEREAS:** The UC system is not aligning their General Education requirements with Cal-GETC and will continue to articulate all courses; and,

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY MARITIME ACADEMY

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**WHEREAS:** The Board of Trustees is scheduled to make a decision in March whether to amend CSU Breadth to align with Cal-GETC; and,

**WHEREAS:** The CSU Curriculum is the purview of the CSU faculty.

**RESOLVED:** the Faculty Senate at the California State University Maritime Academy supports the following ASCSU Resolutions, approved on January 18, 2024: AS-3647-23/AA (“Call for Task force on CSU General Education”), AS-3651-23/AA (“A Call for Continuing Collaboration on Title 5 Changes”), AS-3654-23/APEP (“Transfer Admission Routes to the CSU Outside of Cal-GETC”), and AS-2666-24/Exec/AA (“Opposition to Changing California State University General Education Breadth at this Time”); and

**RESOLVED:** the Faculty Senate at the California State University Maritime Academy urges the CSU Board of Trustees to follow ASCSU recommendations and only implement Cal-GETC for transfer students, as required by law.

**RESOLVED:** that the Faculty Senate of the California State University Maritime Academy distribute this resolution to:

- the CSU Board of Trustees
- the Academic Senate of the CSU (ASCSU)
- CSU Campus Academic Senate Chairs
- CSU Provosts/Vice Presidents of Academic Affairs
- The President of California State University Maritime Academy

## **RATIONALE:**

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The Cal Maritime General Education Committee met on Tuesday, February 6, 2024, and discussed the events of the January 29-31, 2024 CSU Board of Trustees meeting, and the potential implications of aligning the new California General Education Transfer Curriculum (Cal-GETC) and CSU GE Breadth requirements.

We believe that revisions to the CSU General Education (GE) Breadth requirements should be both data-driven and led by CSU faculty, rather than being dictated by legislative mandates or decided by faculty outside the CSU system.

Our stance is informed by a precedent set by the Cal Maritime Faculty Senate in Fall 2022 with Resolution 22-23/02, which highlighted the problematic nature of the implementation process for AB 928. The resolution pointed out the coercive choice presented to CSU campus faculty senates: to either accept the Cal-GETC proposal “as is” or to forfeit faculty governance over adjustments to the General Education Transfer pathway. Our earlier stance explicitly limited approval to the reduction of 5 units for transfer-bound community college students, clarifying that such approval should not extend to altering the CSU GE pathway.

A mandate by the CSU Board of Trustees to apply the Cal-GETC curriculum across the CSU system - *against* the recommendation of the ASCSU - establishes a concerning precedent. If adopted, this change would alter the educational experiences of all CSU students without substantial evidence of its impact, potentially eliminating essential courses that foster reading comprehension and information literacy.

This approach to curriculum decision-making - especially when it appears to be influenced by external pressures or expedited for administrative convenience - undermines the quality of education that the CSU system is known to provide. Political appointees should not exert significant influence over curriculum decisions.

Our resolution thus advocates for a return to a more inclusive, evidence-based, and faculty-led process in determining the future of CSU's General Education curriculum, ensuring that any changes made are in the best interest of our students and the academic integrity of our institutions.