Resolution Number: RS02-190
January, 2002

ACADEMIC SENATE
SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY
RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF CONTINUING TO EVALUATE FIRST-TERM FOREIGN LANGUAGE COURSES TRANSFERRED FROM COMMUNITY COLLEGES ON A COURSE-BY-COURSE BASIS TO DETERMINE IF SUCH COURSES SATISFY GENERAL EDUCATION-BREADTH REQUIREMENTS

WHEREAS Executive Order 595, General Education-Breadth Requirements (November 20, 1992), states, in part:

C. A minimum of twelve semester units among the arts, literature, philosophy and foreign languages.

Instruction approved for the fulfillment of this requirement should cultivate intellect, imagination, sensibility and sensitivity. It is meant in part to encourage students to respond subjectively as well as objectively to experience and to develop a sense of the integrity of emotional and intellectual response. Students should be motivated to cultivate and refine their affective as well as
cognitive and physical faculties through studying great works of the human imagination, which could include active participation in individual esthetic, creative experience. Equally important is the intellectual examination of the subjective response, thereby increasing awareness and appreciation in the traditional humanistic disciplines such as art, dance, drama, literature and music. The requirement should result in the student’s better understanding of the interrelationship between the creative arts, the humanities and self. Studies in these areas should include exposure to both Western cultures and non-Western cultures.

Foreign language courses may be included in this requirement because of their implications for cultures both in their linguistic structures and in their use in literature; but foreign language courses which are approved to meet a portion of this requirement are to contain a cultural component and not be solely skills acquisition courses.

WHEREAS First-term foreign language courses have been recognized as having a cultural component and have met the standards for General Education-Breadth at San Francisco State University since 1982; and

WHEREAS Many students come to San Francisco State University as transfer students, after studying foreign languages at community colleges; therefore be it

RESOLVED That the
Academic Senate, San Francisco State University, strongly recommend that (a) CSU foreign language departments work with community college foreign language departments to ensure that first-term foreign language courses contain a cultural component; and (b) that first-term foreign language courses taken in community colleges continue to be evaluated on a course-by-course basis to determine if such courses contain a cultural component and are therefore acceptable as satisfying part of a student's General Education-Breadth requirements; and be it further

RESOLVED That this resolution be sent to the ASCSU Senate Chair, the ASCSU Academic Affairs Committee Chair, all CSU Academic Senate/Council Chairs, the CSU Foreign Language Council Chair, the California Community Colleges Foreign Language Council Executive Director and President, the CSU campus Department of Foreign Language and Literatures Chairs, and the CSU campus chairs of departments teaching languages other than English.

***APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY MARCH 5, 2002***