Resolutions on Proposed Executive Order Regarding General Education Breadth Requirements

Resolution Number: RS92-100
January, 1992
RESOLUTION ON PROPOSED EXECUTIVE ORDER
REGARDING GENERAL EDUCATION-BREADTH REQUIREMENTS
RS92-100

At its meeting of March 3, 1992, the Academic Senate unanimously approved the following resolution.

WHEREAS
The Academic Senate, CSU is considering a resolution endorsing the proposed Executive Order regarding General Education-Breadth Requirements at its meeting of March 4-6, 1992; and

WHEREAS
The proposed Executive Order uses language in Sections V-C and V-D regarding requirements for coursework on the contributions, experience, and perspectives of American racial and ethnic groups; of women and other nondominant groups; and of Western and non-Western cultures that is taken unchanged from E.O. 338 written in 1980; and

WHEREAS
The need for an expansion of multicultural perspectives in the curriculum has been widely recognized in the revision of the State Master Plan for Higher Education and the action of the Academic Senate, SFSU in establishing an ad hoc committee for Multicultural Perspectives in the Curriculum (May, 1991); therefore be it

RESOLVED
That the Academic Senate, SFSU urges the Academic Senate, CSU to amend the proposed Executive Order on General Education-Breadth Requirements to incorporate the revised language as follows:

Section V-C
A minimum of twelve semester units or eighteen quarter 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 is intended to result in the student's better understanding of the interrelationship between the creative arts, the humanities and self. Studies in these areas shall include exposure to a pattern of coursework designed to develop a historical understanding of major civilizations and cultures both Western and non-Western, and an understanding and appreciation of the contributions and perspectives of women and of ethnic and other minorities.

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. Campus provisions for fulfillment of this requirement must include a reasonable distribution among the categories specified as opposed to the completion of the entire number of units required in one category.

Section V-D

A minimum of twelve semester units or eighteen quarter units dealing with human social, political, and economic institutions and behavior and their historical background.

Instruction approved for fulfillment of this requirement should reflect the fact that human social, political and economic institutions and behavior are inextricably interwoven. Students who have completed this requirement shall have been exposed to a pattern of coursework designed to help them gain an understanding and appreciation of the contributions and perspectives of women and of ethnic and other minorities and a comparative perspective on both Western and non-Western societies in their contemporary as well as historical settings. Campus provisions for fulfillment of this requirement must include a reasonable distribution among the categories specified as opposed to completion of the entire number of units required in one category.

and be it further
RESOLVED That the Academic Senate, SFSU instruct its representatives to the Academic Senate, CSU to take whatever steps are appropriate to cause the proposed E.O. to be amended as proposed by the Academic Senate, SFSU.