

February 6, 2019

MEMORANDUM

TO: CSU Presidents

FROM: Loren J. Blanchard, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor



SUBJECT: Academic Senate CSU General Education Task Force Report

In November 2016, the Academic Senate CSU (ASCSU) created a General Education Task Force (GETF) to discuss CSU General Education Breadth policy. Several factors contributed to the creation of this task force by the ASCSU including national conversations regarding the role of general education in higher education as well as responses to external interest in CSU GE from the legislature, Board of Trustees (BOT) and other CSU constituent groups. The GETF membership included eight ASCSU members, two trustees (former Chair Eisen and former faculty trustee Stepanek), a representative from the CSU Office of the Chancellor, two CSU students appointed by the California State Student Association and one faculty member each from the University of California and the California Community College systems.

On February 1, 2019 the GETF held its 20th, and final meeting. The result of the GETF is a report to the ASCSU providing recommendations for restructuring CSU GE Breadth requirements to make it more coherent and responsive to the needs of contemporary CSU students. A secondary goal was to incorporate as many external, non-degree based requirements (such as the Title 5 American Institutions/American History requirement and campus-based diversity course requirements) into CSU GE Breadth. The final report from the GETF will recommend changes to the size and scope of CSU GE Breadth.

The report will be transmitted to the Chair of the ASCSU and the GETF membership by this Friday, February 8, 2019. It will then, in all likelihood, be shared with all members of the ASCSU. It is important to emphasize that this effort to revise CSU GE Breadth is originating from the ASCSU, not the Office of the Chancellor, and that this report contains only recommendations. The contents must still be reviewed and discussed by the ASCSU before the

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report is sent to the Chancellor. Chancellor's Office staff will have an opportunity to respond to the recommendations at the point that they are formally forwarded from the ASCSU.

As soon as the report is issued, we will provide a copy to you. I anticipate that we will have time to discuss this report at one of the upcoming Chancellor's Senior Leadership Council meetings.

LJB/amw

c: Timothy P. White, Chancellor
Karen Nakai, Chief of Staff, Office of the Chancellor
Nathan Evans, Chief of Staff, Academic and Student Affairs