June 12, 2008
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To: Provosts/Vice Presidents of Academic Affairs
From: Keith O. Boyum, Associate Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs
Subject: BA Career and Technical Studies, Bachelor of Vocational Education

Earlier this year Executive Vice Chancellor Gary Reichard, in response to campus inquiries about irregularities in the composition, voting, and conduct of the Board of Examiners for Vocational Education, contacted deans who have responsibilities for Bachelor of Vocational Education (BVE) degree programs. The deans were helpful in directing BVE student work (also called “Swan Portfolios”) away from the improperly constituted Board and into the hands of the CSU for evaluation and recommendation for award of academic credit.

Since that time, Chancellor Reed and Jack O’Connell, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, have agreed that the administration and curricular responsibility of CSU BVE programs is most appropriately carried out by the CSU. Chancellor Reed informed Superintendent O’Connell that the CSU plans to revisit the university’s programs for educating career and technical (vocational) instructors. In keeping with Title 5 regulations, the suggested title for such programs is a baccalaureate in Career and Technical Studies. (The CSU cannot award bachelor’s degree with the word “Education” in the title.)

Chancellor Reed has asked that the campuses offering BVE degree programs suspend enrollment in those programs, effective immediately so that they will not be out of compliance with obsolete yet existing statute and regulations that will be revised this year. Campuses are to make provisions to teach out enrolled students, and are to initiate program discontinuation processes for existing BVE programs. Please follow campus discontinuation policy and inform Chancellor Reed when the discontinuation process is approved at the campus level.

In response to state workforce development needs, and in keeping with the CSU mission, we are asking campuses to consider developing baccalaureate degree programs in Career and Technical Studies, and we would like to facilitate discussion of program development, best practice, and curriculum for the new programs. If your campus is interested in developing a baccalaureate degree program in Career and Technical Studies, please have a representative contact Dr. Christine Hanson, State University Dean, who will coordinate a systemwide planning network. Chris can be reached at chanson@calstate.edu or (562) 951-4672.

c: Charles B. Reed, Chancellor
Gary W. Reichard, Executive Vice Chancellor
Christine Hanson, State University Dean
John Tarjan, Chair, Academic Senate, CSU
Deans with Responsibility for BVE Programs
Associate Vice Presidents, Academic Programs/Academic Affairs

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