

ACADEMIC SENATE
of
THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY

AS-2492-00/AA
May 4-5, 2000

**Revision of the Proposed Changes to Title 5 Regulations on
Undergraduate Degrees**

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of the California State University urge that the Board of Trustees' Committee on Educational Policy revise its Agenda Item (originally presented at the Board of Trustees' meeting of January 25-26, 2000) as follows:

1. To separate their consideration of changing the minimum unit requirement for the awarding of degrees from all other proposed changes to Title 5, and to forego action on other proposed changes in Title 5 language pertaining to undergraduate degree requirements until the Academic Senate CSU, with the advice of the campus senate chairs, reviews Title 5 and studies the full range of issues related to degree requirements in the context of CSU accountability principles and Cornerstones Principle 10.
2. On page 3, rewrite the second sentence in the first full paragraph to read: "Each campus will re-examine the unit requirements for graduation and provide a monitoring system to ensure that justification is provided for all program requirements that extend the baccalaureate unit requirement beyond 120 units." [This removes the adjective "acceptable" before "justification" and eliminates the expression "the normative minimum".]
3. In the following paragraph ("Discussion"), strike the word "strongly" in the first sentence, which will then end "establish no greater total-unit requirement for a degree program than can be justified."
4. At the end of the "Discussion" paragraph, add the following sentence: "It is understood that baccalaureate unit requirements are to be reviewed on campuses by faculty in the course of regularly scheduled program reviews."
5. On page 4, the text of Title 5 Section 40500 (e) should read: "A minimum of 120 semester units shall be required of each candidate, including at least 40 semester units in upper-division courses or their equivalent. Each campus shall establish and maintain a monitoring system to ensure that justification is provided for all program requirements that extend the baccalaureate unit requirement beyond 120 units." [This changes "total of at least" to "minimum of," removes "acceptable" before "justification," and removes "the normative minimum of."]

6. On page 6, insert the words "at least" before the number 120, so that Section 40503(c) begins: "Requirements. Each candidate for the degree shall have completed at least 120 semester units...."

RATIONALE: The faculty have primary responsibility for certain curricular decisions, including "the establishment of minimum conditions for the award of certificates and degrees to students" (cf. "Collegiality in the California State University System," adopted by the Academic Senate of the California State University in March 1985 and accepted by the Board of Trustees). In the coming academic year the Academic Senate of the California State University, with the advice of the campus senate chairs, anticipates reviewing Title 5 and studying a full range of issues related to degree requirements in the context of CSU accountability principles and Cornerstones Principle 10.

APPROVED WITHOUT DISSENT – May 4-5, 2000