RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of the California State University (ASCSU) note that AB 927 specifies a process for dealing with disagreements between the California State University (CSU) and the California Community Colleges (CCCs) regarding program duplication between proposed CCC four-year Baccalaureate Programs and existing CSU programs that potentially leads to the two systems agreeing to disagree about program duplication; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the ASCSU expresses its concern that, given the possibility that the two systems agree to disagree, several new CCC programs may be created that duplicate existing CSU programs leading to reduced enrollment in CSU programs, a reduction in revenue from student fee and potentially a reduction in State support; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the ASCSU requests that the Chancellor’s Office work, in collaboration with the ASCSU, to develop a CSU enrollment impact report of any new CCC four-year baccalaureate programs, using the data required pursuant to Section 4 of Section 78042 (f)(4); concerning the enrollment projections for each program; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the ASCSU requests the Chancellor’s Office produce a report on the potential for lost CSU revenue by virtue of newly created majors being approved by the Chancellor of the Community Colleges; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the ASCSU distribute this resolution to the CSU Board of Trustees, CSU Chancellor, CSU campus Presidents, CSU campus Senate Chairs, CSU Provosts/Vice Presidents of Academic Affairs, California Faculty Association (CFA), CSU Emeritus and Retired Faculty & Staff Association (CSU-ERFSA), Academic Senate for the California Community Colleges, and the California Community Colleges’ Board of Governors,

RATIONALE: AB 927 grants the California Community Colleges (CCCs) the right to offer four-year baccalaureate degrees as long as these do not conflict with programs offered by the California State University (CSU). The law leaves the determination of where a proposed program overlaps with the two system heads. There is nothing in the legislation that requires faculty involvement yet under the Higher Education
Employee/Employer Relations Act (HEERA), curriculum is the purview of the faculty. It is therefore appropriate to establish a formal process for faculty consultation within the CSU when CCCs tender new program proposals for joint approval. A resolution concerning these curricula impacts is the subject of proposed Resolution AS-3526-22/AA and is hereby integrated by reference.

Moreover, the national trend in CCC baccalaureates is toward business, engineering, nursing, health, and computer science; hence the potential for conflicts in degree programs is likely. This suggests that in addition to the pedagogical reasons for ASCSU shared decision-making, there is an economic argument as well. California Community Colleges have experienced a 318,000 (15%) decline in enrollment year over year for 2020-21. This may already have a potential impact of 10,000 fewer transfers to the CSU. Now consider the additive impact of AB 927. If only 10% of the 1,832,000 enrolled in the CCC stay for the BA, because curriculum overlaps significantly with the CSU, that portends a minimum of more than 6,000 students not transferring to the CSU (3.3% × 10% × 1,832,000) more students not transferring to the CSU, which in total could translate into many million more in lost CSU revenues. Therefore, financial impact is a crucial variable for both the Chancellor’s Office and the ASCSU to consider in the evaluation of majors proposed by the CCC. Since no impact study has been done concerning the effect of AB 927 on CSU revenues, it is incumbent upon the Chancellor’s Office to prepare such a report so that the CSU and ASCSU can be prepared to discuss the financial impact, if any, in resolving these potential curricular conflicts.

Approved Unanimously – March 17-18, 2022