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Office of the Academic Senate
SANTA CRUZ DIVISION
125 CLARK KERR HALL
(831) 459 - 2086

November 15, 2021

Robert Horwitz, Chair
Academic Council

RE: Systemwide Review of Proposed Revisions to Senate Regulation 478 (IGETC)

Dear Robert,

The Santa Cruz Division of the Academic Senate has completed its review of the proposed revisions to Senate Regulation 478, Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) with the Committees on Affirmative Action and Diversity (CAAD), Admissions and Financial Aid (CAFA), Educational Policy (CEP), and Teaching (COT) responding. Overall, all of the committees praised the addition of an IGETC Subject Area 7 – Ethnic Studies. They all noted that the alignment with the California State University system in this area is likely to be beneficial. CAAD, echoed by COT, supported the addition as it “fosters key critical and social competencies in students.”

CAAD raised a concern regarding a potential loophole in the explanatory paragraph. “If a campus adds one or more additional competencies, would these then count among the 3 that minimally meet the criteria for an approved Area 7 course? If so, that would seem to undermine the point of establishing common definitional criteria.” CAFA and COT share CAAD’s concern that the ability of a campus to add its own separate competencies might dilute or even supplant the intent of the content requirements. Additionally, this might create barriers to access for transfers if community college courses end up satisfying the customized needs of only a few campuses. The Santa Cruz Division recommends that this be clarified.

On behalf of the Santa Cruz Division, I thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important revision to systemwide regulations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Brundage".

David Brundage, Chair
Academic Senate, Santa Cruz Division

cc: David Smith, Chair, Committee on Admissions and Financial Aid
Kirsten Silva Gruesz, Chair, Committee on Affirmative Action and Diversity
Tracy Larrabee, Chair, Committee on Educational Policy
Catherine Jones, Chair, Committee on Teaching