

Implementation of Assembly Bill 928 ~ Singular GE Pathway

ICAS MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, January 11, 2022

Char Horwitz outlined the agreements made during the committee's November meeting. As per ICAS bylaws, a special committee will be established to develop a plan for the singular General Education (GE) pathway called for by AB 928. In consultation with President Davison and Chair Collins, Chair Horwitz proposed that the special committee would have nine faculty members: the chairs of each Senate, the three faculty members of Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) Standards Subcommittee, and one additional faculty member from each segment. Staff from each segment would participate as advisors as will a member of the California Intersegmental Articulation Council (CIAC). The third UC faculty representative on the special committee will be Barbara Knowlton, the Vice Chair of the Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools, who just stepped down from the IGETC Standards Subcommittee. The faculty representatives for the CCCs will be President Davison, Vice President May and Treasurer Bean. The CSU representatives will be Chair Collins and IGETC Standards Subcommittee member Mark Van Selst, and a third faculty representative will be recruited. The charge to the special committee would be to develop options for the GE pathway using the IGETC framework with a unit cap of 34. This unit cap is problematic because CSU has courses, requirements, and pedagogical commitments that have increased the number of units. The immediate task is to figure out how to pare down the CSU units to 34 and adjust IGETC courses so that they coalesce. It is strongly recommended that a new name for this GE pathway is used to distinguish it from IGETC, such as "Transfer Admission GE Core." The questions for the special committee to consider include whether the CSU faculty will accept making Lifelong Learning an upper division course taken after transferring and if Oral Communication/Critical Thinking can be incorporated into Area 1, 3 or 4 of IGETC as a competency rather than as a course. Another question is if the CSU would consider bifurcating Oral Communications and Critical Thinking so the former could be merged with Lifelong Learning and the latter could be in Area 3 or 4. The special committee will need to deliberate over both broad and very narrow questions and concerns. The timetable for completing this work is tight and must allow for consultation with each segments' constituencies, which means a proposed plan needs to be ready this May. Discussion: The CCC's Oral Communications faculty are concerned that their course could be cut since it is a requirement for CSU but not UC. Although the primary issues may be related to the Oral Communications/ Critical Thinking and Lifelong Learning courses, the special committee will need to determine how to meet the unit cap and this may be complicated. One issue ICAS should address today is how decisions will be made, if it will be by consensus or majority vote, and how dissension will be handled. There are concerns that two segments voting in favor of something the third segment does not support. Members should agree to a shared definition of "consensus," and it is critical to remember that if the special committee or ICAS fail to reach consensus, the administrators will take control of designing the new GE pathway. Consensus may simply mean that everyone can live with whatever the plan is. There are concerns about obtaining buy-in from faculty in the segments. It was noted that the CSU GE Task Force in 2019 began with two problematic premises: that specific cuts had to be made to Communications, Humanities, and Social Sciences; and that administrators have a better understanding than faculty or discipline experts about how to engage in a particular field. The CSU faculty also complained about the lack of consultation with them, but the ASCSU has laid a good foundation for the AB 928 effort that should promote faculty engagement. The models for GE pathways that administrators could propose

will be very simple. The UC Senate office is identifying potential dates for the special committee's first meeting and members will be polled soon. President Davison offered to contact the leadership of CIAC about identifying an articulation officer to participate on the special committee. Action: A motion to establish a special committee on AB 928 and to draft its charge by the February 3rd ICAS meeting was made, seconded, and approved without opposition. Action: President Davison and Chair Collins offered to work on the charge for the special committee which will largely be based on the language of the legislation. IV. Development of Progress Report on AB 928 Implementation During the November ICAS meeting, the committee discussed submit