

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
COUNCIL FOR ETHNIC STUDIES
Los Angeles, CA

RESOLUTION ON ISSUES AROUND
THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AB 1460

Whereas, AB1460 (Weber, 2020) required the California State University (CSU) to institute, as an undergraduate graduation requirement, the completion of, at minimum, one 3-unit course in ethnic studies in one of four core areas (Native American, African American, Asian American and Latina and Latino American Studies, exclusively),

Whereas, The Weber Bill AB 1460 is clearly an historic legislative initiative designed to enhance and expand the educational project with inclusive excellence by this requirement,

Whereas, if this laudable and essential goal is to be achieved, it should and must be implemented with fidelity to the principles and practices of an education of inclusive excellence as stipulated and suggested by the bill,

Whereas, this requires meaningfully including formerly excluded and diminished voices, histories, cultures, intellectual traditions, lived experiences and social struggles of the four racialized ethnic groups, Native American, African American, Asian American and Latina and Latino American Studies, as stipulated by AB 1460,

Whereas, numerous approvals and denials of CCC courses proposed for Ethnic Studies occurred in direct violation of the law, policies and procedures which govern the implementation of Ethnic Studies in community colleges and the CSU,

Whereas, the implementation of AB 1460 by the CSUCO has failed to consistently communicate or consult the experts in Ethnic Studies, namely the Council for Ethnic Studies, resulting in a significantly flawed review process leading to the approval of community college courses not reflective of four disciplines which make up Ethnic Studies,

Whereas, this has also involved campuses opening up the fulfillment of the requirement to faculty, departments and programs other than Ethnic Studies faculty, departments and programs, negatively impacting them and raising questions of the integrity of the courses and the appropriateness of the process,

Whereas, the most recent development, the creation of an approval rubric, for course approval of community college ethnic studies courses occurred without consultation with the CSU Council for Ethnic Studies, or the course reviewers in each of the four disciplines, a clear violation of faculty governance,

Whereas, the integrity of the discipline is undermined in this process, and students are deprived of an intellectually sound and meaningful engagement with the critical studies of the four

racialized ethnic groups, Native American, African American, Asian American and Latina and Latino American Studies, as required by AB 1460,

Resolved, that the Academic Senate for California State University partner with the California State University Council for Ethnic Studies (CSUCES), California Community College Ethnic Studies Faculty Council (CCCEFC), and the newly established UC Council for Ethnic Studies to work toward establishing a well-structured, equitable Ethnic Studies review process with integrity, appropriate guidelines, timelines, and qualified reviewers from the CSU and CCC in each of the four Ethnic Studies disciplines.

Resolved, that the Academic Senate partner with the California State University Council for Ethnic Studies (CSUCES) to call for an immediate moratorium and halt to the review process until such time as a faculty review process is adopted.

Resolved that the practice of disciplinary deference with Ethnic Studies faculty is strengthened and reaffirmed as is practiced with faculty in all other academic disciplines, i.e., engaging faculty in the area of their expertise.

Resolved that new initiatives are established to build, strengthen and expand Ethnic Studies departments and programs and increase and support Ethnic Studies faculty in order to enhance these units' capacity to implement the requirements and intentions of AB 1460.

Proposed by: Faculty Senate of CSUN The Coordinating Committee of the CSU Council for Ethnic Studies

Date: November 18, 2022