

March 15, 2017

Dr. Christine Miller
Chair, Academic Senate, California State University
California State University, Office of the Chancellor
401 Golden Shore
Long Beach, California 90802

Dear Chair Miller:

This letter is to respond to concerns raised regarding the March 10, 2017 memorandum requesting campus feedback on Executive Order 1100.

We recognize there is a perception that the collection of this information might interfere with or limit the scope of work of the ASCSU's General Education Task Force. I would like to clarify that we see these as two separate but complementary efforts. Our intent was, and is, to gather information about campus level implications of existing policies in order to assure equitable access and opportunity for students in the CSU. This work will not include evaluations of increases, or reductions in CSU GE requirements. The General Education Task Force has the opportunity to take a much broader approach on the subject and include those larger questions regarding the intent, size, composition and scope of general education in the CSU.

The Quantitative Reasoning Task Force (QRTF) report is an important impetus for my memo. As conveyed in my letter to you regarding updates on actions related to the QRTF report recommendations and understanding that some of these areas require immediate attention, we want to move forward expeditiously with some recommendations, so that students can immediately benefit. For example, GEAC is working on an updated definition of quantitative reasoning and that will be considered for the contemplated revision.

Another important consideration in sending this memo is the cascading impact and timeline of consultation. We want to provide time for campus senates to act on any potential related changes during the fall 2017 term so that updates may be reflected in 2018-19 college catalogs. In addition, we have faced continued inquiries from state officials and work such as this demonstrates a good faith effort has begun to address some of their concerns.

CSU Campuses

Bakersfield
Channel Islands
Chico
Dominguez Hills
East Bay

Fresno
Fullerton
Humboldt
Long Beach
Los Angeles
Maritime Academy

Monterey Bay
Northridge
Pomona
Sacramento
San Bernardino
San Diego

San Francisco
San José
San Luis Obispo
San Marcos
Sonoma
Stanislaus

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Although not indicated in the memo, I want to assure you that we will share the information gathered through this process with the ASCSU and the GE Task Force, to inform their work. We will also allocate funding for stipends to allow faculty to work with us during summer 2017.

Finally, we appreciate that the original timeline to achieve the review of EO 1100 may pose challenges and will extend the deadline to June 16, 2017, the end of the spring quarter. This extension will allow additional time for campus consultation while also ensuring that we can make progress in resolving policy-related impediments to student access, equity, progress and graduation.

If you have any questions regarding this communication, please contact me. I look forward to our continued work together on behalf of CSU students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Loren J. Blanchard". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Loren" being the most prominent.

Loren J. Blanchard, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor