



**Chancellor's General Education  
Advisory Committee**

ANNUAL REPORT (Academic Year 2020-2021)

**Members:**

Mark Van Selst, GEAC Chair, ASCSU (San Jose) [Psychology]  
Eniko Csomay, GEAC Vice-Chair, ASCSU (San Diego) [Linguistics]  
Kevin Baaske, ASCSU (Los Angeles) [Communication]  
David Barky, ASCSU (San Marcos) [Mathematics]  
Julie Glass, ASCSU (East Bay) [Mathematics]  
Gary Laver, AA Chair ASCSU (San Luis Obispo) [Psychology]  
Susan Schlievert, ASCSU (Fresno) [Curriculum and Instruction]  
Stephen Stambough, ASCSU (Fullerton) [Political Science]  
Michelle Bean, CCC Academic Senate (Rio Hondo) [English & Literature]  
Regina Eisenbach, CSU Campus Academic Affairs (San Marcos)  
Jenni Robinson, CSU Articulation Officer (Humboldt)  
Graciela Moran, CSSA (San Bernardino)  
Leonor Aguilera, CCC AO (Santiago Canyon)  
Raul Arambula, CCC CO, Dean Intersegmental Support  
Melissa Lavitt, CSU CO, Assistant Vice Chancellor & State University Dean

**Alternates:**

Zahraa Khuraibet, CSSA (Northridge) [2x alternate for Graciela Moran]  
Tiffany Tran, CCC AO (Irvine Valley) [alternate for Leonor Aguilera]

**Guests:**

Quajuana Chapman, CSU CO (re: various)  
Sheila A. Thomas, CSU CO (re: credit for prior learning, veterans)  
Robert Collins, Chair ASCSU (re: various)  
Karen Simpson-Alisca, CSU CO (re: transfer)  
Aisha n. Lowe, CCC CO, Vice Chancellor (re: various)  
Graham Benton, CSU Maritime (re: A1 waiver)  
Francelina Neto, CSU Maritime (re: A1 waiver)  
William Tsai, CSU Maritime (re: A1 waiver)  
Su Jin Jez, California Competes (re: Credit for prior learning)  
Ilaf Esuf, California Competes (re: Credit for prior learning)  
Marshall W. Thomas, CSU CO (re: credit for prior learning, veterans)

Claudia Pinker, CSU CO (re: various)  
Thomas Horvath, CSU: Monterey Bay (re: A3 waiver)  
Andrew Larson, CSU Monterey Bay (re: A3 waiver)  
Stacey Bosick, Sonoma State (re: A3 waiver)

## **Overview:**

GEAC includes faculty, administrators, and articulation officers from the CSU and California Community Colleges. It advises the Chancellor on policies connected to the statewide General Education Breadth curriculum, a part of every CSU degree.

GEAC typically meets on the Tuesday directly preceding the Wednesday-Friday committee and plenary sessions for the Academic Senate CSU (September, November, January, March, and May) although for this session GEAC held a special meeting in October focused on the implementation of Ethnic Studies in CSU GE and in February to allow a fuller consideration of the California Maritime Academy request for a waiver in CSU GE Area A1 (oral communication) for two of their programs.

The intersegmental nature of the committee has the consequence that sometimes topics stray from those strictly under the purview of GEAC (e.g., American Institutions is not a formal GE requirement) and the committee also touches on other elements of intersegmental coordination (Transfer, Articulation). The intent is that the primary focus of GEAC remain on the effectiveness of the General Education as a whole (including both CSU GE and IGETC).

The structure of this report is to first introduce the topics referred to GEAC for future consideration in the prior annual report and those called out in the Chancellor's charge for GEAC to address during 2020-2021. The next section lists those items acted on or considered by the committee. The fourth section lists specific resolutions adopted by the ASCSU that are of relevance to GEAC (Ethnic Studies-related resolutions are listed separately). The fifth and concluding section highlights items for consideration by GEAC for 2021-2022.

## **Concerns Identified in the GEAC 2019-2020 Annual Report:**

1. CSU GE Guiding Notes (review and updating)
2. GE review (including new resubmission/appeal process)
3. Credit by examination (formerly EO 1036)
4. Ethnic Studies Implementation
  - Incorporation into GE
  - Plan to support additional GE review re: new requirement
  - Standards and transferability
5. How is GE represented by the campus?
  - To freshmen
  - To transfer students
6. Programmatic assessment of GE
7. Virtual Labs (ongoing system support)
  - Faculty Development Resource Availability (Dr. Emily Magruder; <https://www.calstate.edu/itl>)

8. Developing a GE affinity list (or lists) [and encouraging an annual update process]

**Chancellor's Charge to the Committee:**

1. Ethnic Studies
  - feedback on the incorporation of Ethnic Studies into CSU GE
2. EO 1036 revision
  - feedback on the revision to the CSU policy on Credit for Prior Learning
3. CSU GE Guiding Notes
  - Annual review

**Items Considered or Acted on by the GEAC 2020-2021 Committee:**

1. Ethnic Studies
  - Community College implementation of a CCC-specific Ethnic Studies requirement
  - Possible inclusion of Ethnic Studies into IGETC
  - Feedback on inconsistencies in the Ethnic Studies FAQ
  - Impact of Area F on Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADTs)
  - The very compressed submission/review cycle required for Fall 2021 offerings (for both CSU internal and CCC submission to CSU CO for review)
  - Consultative processes regarding the core competencies for the requirement involving the CSU CO, the ASCSU, and the CSU Council on Ethnic Studies
  - Concerns regarding CSU CO prefix requirements re: GE Area F
  - Consequences of CSU GE Area D reduction
  - Revision of the originally-approved Ethnic Studies core competencies
  - Consideration of future review processes re: revisions to Ethnic Studies core competencies
2. Credit for Prior Learning
  - CCC mandate to transcript credit for prior learning (competency-based evaluation) as coursework
  - The role of the CCC California Virtual Campus – Online Education Initiative (CVC-OEI) as a hub for credit for prior learning within the CCC system
  - Review of possible CSU policy language
  - Consideration of the impact of changes for our students who are veterans
  - Testing/Credit by Examination
    1. Pragmatic concerns (availability/COVID)
    2. Disability accommodations
    3. Equity considerations
  - Any systemic award of CSU GE credit needs to be authorized by the CSU

- There is tension between “units” from credit for prior learning and “units towards degree requirements” (especially as these units impact unit limits within the GI bill and other financial aid programs)
  - Concerns were mentioned of conflating GE credit and major program credit
  - Content related to evaluations re: service for veterans is now in a separate section
3. Annual update of credit by examination equivalencies
    - *AP World History – Modern* was the last update (04/2020 with an effective of 08/2019)
  4. GE interactions with Associate Degrees for Transfer
    - Concern that IGETC may be being used to award ADTs despite most Transfer Model Curricula (TMC) specifying CSU GE to be used (and thus the receiving institution does not know what the student actually did not come in with the ADT-specified requirements)
  5. GE Course Review
    - Appeals process (and need to interface with UC review processes)
    - Special resubmission process for Ethnic Studies (short-term exemption to regular processing)
    - Special 1-year back-dating of Ethnic Studies approvals from 2021-2022 to 2020-2021 (one time, one-year special case)
    - Faculty review appointments
  6. GE Guiding Notes (annual review and update)
    - Need for re-organization/re-formatting to make the document more useable
    - CSU campus (or CCC campus) requirements may layer on top of CSU GE requirements
    - Using ESL coursework for GE credit
    - Mathematics/Quantitative Reasoning standards (see March minutes)
  7. Mathematics / Quantitative Reasoning
    - CSU Math Council and ASCSU remain concerned that CSU GE B4 requirements are inadequately defined and that this leads to difficulties in implementation and/or evaluation
    - Math Council and ASCSU recommended a series of revisions re: CSU GE B4 descriptions (*CSU GE Area B4 Mathematics/Quantitative Reasoning Course Deadlines and Principles*, CSU Math Council, April 2020)
    - IGETC standards now include language re: primary purpose and content re: Mathematics / Quantitative Reasoning.
  8. IGETC Standards Revisions (annual review and update)
    - Removal of STATWAY exemption language (no longer required)
    - Expansion of Mathematics/Quantitative Reasoning standards
    - Google forms used to accumulate suggested edits from the field

- IGETC review (2020-2021) did not address the proposal for inclusion of Ethnic Studies
  - It was clarified that a cohesive course can include both a lecture and laboratory component and still qualify (this is in addition to the formal science laboratory requirement)
9. CSU GE/IGETC Alignment
- Discussion of variation of IGETC by UC campus (vs. IGETC for CSU)
  - Discussion of the impracticalities of AB928 (Berman) on transfer/preparation
10. How is GE presented to students?
- Orientation at entrance to the university
  - Website presentation
  - The role of advising – GE course-taking patterns and intentionality in general and quantitative reasoning in particular – vis-à-vis ‘tracking’ students
11. Catalog Rights
- A concern magnified by the changes to CSU GE re: Ethnic Studies – there are improvements to PeopleSoft to better allocate appropriate catalog rights to students at entry to the CSU.
  - A lot of discussion about when catalog rights apply (course taking vs. admission to program)
12. Credit/No Credit Grading
- Request from CSSA to support advocacy for the use of Credit/No Credit grading in GE as pandemic restrictions continue on our campuses
  - CCC system has removed the restriction on only moving graded coursework to Credit/No Credit grading during the first 30% of the course to local CCC district policy.
  - Concerns were raised about the use of Credit/No Credit (Pass/No Pass) as: (i) a proportion of units towards a degree, (ii) for GE, and (iii) to meet major requirements – and the dangers of poor advising leading to pass/no pass grading attempting to be used where not applicable post-transfer.
13. GE Exemption Request: California Maritime Academy
- Recommended approval for CSU GE Area A1 (oral communication) waiver to admission standards for students transferring in to the *Third Assistant Engineer’s license option* and the *ME option of the Mechanical Engineering* programs at California Maritime Academy
  - Approval was contextualized with concerns about the integrity of the GE program, the need to balance coast guard and degree requirements, the careful consideration of A1 vs. A3 accommodation within the program, the rarity of an A1 waiver, and the support of the campus GE committee.
14. GE Exemption Request: CSU Monterey Bay

- Recommended approval for CSU GE Area A3 (critical thinking) waiver to admission standards for students transferring in to the (first ever) engineering program at CSU Monterey Bay [Mechatronics] (balancing the Board of Trustees 120-unit policy, GE and ABET requirements, and the need to meet other university requirements)

15. What does a GE Exemption request mean?

- Over the 2020-2021 academic year, extensive discussion landed on the interpretation that a GE Exemption is a waiver of admissions standards for an element of the golden four at entry to the academic program for transferring students; with all students still required to meet all GE outcomes in the course of their program of study. This understanding should be better documented in policy as it is in apparent conflict with existing waivers granted to programs for C1, C2, and E but is consistent with those for A1 and A3.

16. Upper Division Requirements in CSU GE

- CSU GE policy requires an upper division course in each of areas B, C, and D.
- Prerequisite: "*Students enrolling in upper-division GE courses shall have completed required lower-division GE courses in written communication, oral communication, critical thinking, and mathematics/quantitative reasoning.*"
- At least one CSU campus requires Golden Four plus completion of all lower division coursework in the B/C/D area of the upper division GE course.

17. Systematic Evaluation of GE as a program

- Was not as actively pursued in 2020-2021 as in years past.
- Referral for future action / support.

**ASCSU GE-Relevant Resolutions:**

**Ethnic Studies**

<u>In Support of Assembly Constitutional Amendment (ACA) 5 (Weber)</u>	AS-3436-20/EX	6/2020	Approved Unanimously	EX
<u>Request for Funding the Implementation of AB 1460 (California State University: Graduation Requirement: Ethnic Studies)</u>	AS-3439-20/FGA	9/2020	Approved	FGA
<u>Recommended Core Competencies for Ethnic Studies: Response to California Education Code 89032c</u>	AS-3438-20/AA	9/2020	Approved	AA
<u>Opposition to the CSU Board of Trustees' Changes to Title 5 and CSU Chancellor's Office Proposal for Implementing AB 1460: the Ethnic Studies Requirement</u>	AS-3452-20/Substitute	11/2020	Approved	EX

<a href="#"><u>Adopting the Amended Recommended Core Competencies for Ethnic Studies</u></a>	AS-3460-20/AA	11/2020	Approved	AA
<a href="#"><u>Academic Senate of the California State University [ASCSU] Opposition and Amendments to Title 5 Ethnic Studies Policy</u></a>	AS-3462-20/FA	12/2020	Approved	FA
<a href="#"><u>Accommodating Changes to GE in Transfer Model Curricula (TMC)</u></a>	AS-3446-20/APEP (Rev)	12/2020	Approved	APEP
<a href="#"><u>Ongoing Collaboration on Ethnic Studies in the California State University</u></a>	AS-3461-20/AA (Rev)	1/2021	Approved	AA
<a href="#"><u>Concerns Regarding Ethnic Studies and IGETC implementation</u></a>	AS-3486-21/APEP (Rev)	5/2021	Approved	APEP
<a href="#"><u>Concerns About Dual Admissions Legislation</u></a>	AS-3481-21/APEP (Rev)	5/2021	Approved	APEP
Enhanced Student Advising Services During Implementation of the Ethnic Studies Requirement	AS-3479-21/AA (Rev)	5/2021	Withdrawn	AA

### Other

<a href="#"><u>The Need for Student Academic Records to Document the Governing Transfer Model Curricula for Associate Degrees for Transfer</u></a>	AS-3448-20/APEP (Rev)	12/2020	Approved	APEP
<a href="#"><u>Accommodating Changes to GE in Transfer Model Curricula (TMC)</u></a>	AS-3446-20/APEP (Rev)	12/2020	Approved	APEP
<a href="#"><u>Concerns About Common Transfer Pathways across the CCC, CSU, and UC (Re: AB 928 Berman -- Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act of 2021: Associate Degree for Transfer Intersegmental Implementation Committee)</u></a>	AS-3478-21/APEP (Rev)	5/2021	Approved	APEP
<a href="#"><u>Concerns About Dual Admissions Legislation</u></a>	AS-3481-21/APEP (Rev)	5/2021	Approved	APEP

### Recommendations for Future Consideration

1. Annual Review and Updating
  - CSU GE Guiding Notes

- IGETC Standards
  - Credit by Examination
  - GE submission and review processes
2. Credit by examination (formerly EO 1036)
    - Identify issues in implementation of concern for GE
  3. Ethnic Studies Implementation
    - Identify issues in implementation of concern for GE
      1. Submission
      2. Review
      3. Standards
      4. Faculty Evaluation
  4. Formalize the 2020-2021 GEAC understanding that a campus request to the Chancellor's office for GE Exemption is a request for a waiver of one of the golden four elements for incoming transfer students for the purposes of admission to the program (only).
  5. Facilitating campus-based GE processes
    - How is GE represented by the campus?
      1. To freshmen
      2. To transfer students
    - Facilitate programmatic assessment of GE
    - Best practices in policies or practices in breadth of intellectual exposure in GE
      1. Upper Division GE prerequisites
      2. Limits on "GE in the major"
  6. Science Laboratory Requirement
    - Define outcomes to be achieved via the laboratory experience
  7. Encourage the development of a GE affinity list (or lists) [and encouraging an annual update process]
  8. GE articulation errors
    - Address the concerns raised by CIAC and in the May 2021 GEAC meeting regarding awarding of CSU GE credit for CCC work that has not been evaluated as GE credit via system evaluation processes.