



**Resolution in Opposition to Proposed Baccalaureate Degree Unit Limits
(Board of Trustee Agenda Item)**

WHEREAS; Current state law and California State University Policy require a minimum of 120 units for a baccalaureate degree, and

WHEREAS; the Chancellor's Office is pursuing a policy that limits baccalaureate degrees to a maximum of 120 required units, as expressed in the Baccalaureate Unit Limits on the CSU Board of Trustees (BoT) Agenda of the Committee on Educational Policy (November 2012), and

WHEREAS; several programs have been exempted from the 120 limit cap, recognizing that there are legitimate reasons for exceptions to the cap, and

WHEREAS; degree completion remains imminently attainable in a 4-year course of study for the vast majority of non-exempt programs requiring more than 120 units, and

WHEREAS; accrediting agencies may require a course of study greater than 120 units for a baccalaureate degree and unaccredited programs may not provide students with certain professional opportunities (e.g. licensure), and

WHEREAS; curricula might frequently demand greater or fewer units to attain competence in specific content areas, and, in particular, there may be cases where protecting educational quality and student success (e.g., university learning outcomes, internationalization, etc.) may provide a strong rationale for requiring beyond 120 units, and

WHEREAS; campuses, colleges, and departments are best positioned to make decisions regarding the amount of curricular content necessary to attain competency for a given degree program; and

WHEREAS; inflexible, unilaterally-imposed, and system-wide unit limits threaten faculty control of the curricula; and

WHEREAS; the Academic Senate of CSU Fullerton supports the periodic review of academic degree programs and supports policies that allow students to achieve degree progression in a timely manner;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED BY THE ACADEMIC SENATE OF CSU FULLERTON:

1. We reaffirm our commitment to AS-2820-07 (Distinctive Universities and Campuses: The Autonomy of Individual Institutions in a Multi-Institutional System) which recognizes that each of the universities of the CSU has developed areas of specialization, as well as programs, procedures, and philosophies that may differ from their sister campuses
2. We declare our belief that baccalaureate degrees with more than 120 units are best addressed on a case-by-case basis rather than a unilaterally-imposed standard, and therefore encourage the Chancellor's office to discontinue the pursuit of 120-unit maximum on programs and instead, utilize extant data to identify high-unit baccalaureate degree programs with demonstrated degree-completion underperformance and work collaboratively with those programs to enact procedures to improve student degree completion as appropriate.