



**Opposition to Proposed Removal of Guideline Regarding General Education
in Revised Draft 2013 *Handbook of Accreditation***

RESOLVED: The Academic Senate of California State University, Fullerton strongly opposes the suggested removal of Guideline 2.2a from the WASC Handbook; and be it further

RESOLVED: That this resolution be forwarded to WASC President Ralph Wolff; Project Manager for Accreditation Redesign Jessica Worchel; Chair of the Policy and Planning Committee of the WASC Commission Jackie Donath; Associated Students, Inc., CSU Fullerton; California State Student Association; CSU campus academic senate chairs; Academic Senate of the CSU; Executive Vice Chancellor Ephraim Smith; Interim Chancellor Ben Quillian, and incoming Chancellor Tim White.

In the Revised Draft 2013 Handbook of Accreditation distributed by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges on December 4, 2012, the entire Guideline to WASC Criterion for Review 2.2 was proposed for elimination. The Guideline for 2.2a., which sets the normative expectation for institutions regarding curriculum, is as follows:

“The institution has a program of General Education that is integrated throughout the curriculum, including at the upper division level, consisting of a minimum of 45 semester units (or the equivalent), together with significant study in depth in a given area of knowledge (typically described as a major).”

This is one of the few guidelines in the accreditation criteria with a specific quantitative indicator for judging practices at the wide range of institutions seeking accreditation. It is consistent with CSU Executive Order (EO) 1065 General Education Breadth Requirements, dated 2011. As noted in CSU EO 1065, “CSU General Education Breadth requirements have been designed to complement the major program and electives completed by each baccalaureate candidate, to assure that graduates have made noteworthy progress toward becoming truly educated persons.”

A minimum unit count and upper division expectation should remain in the *Handbook* to establish an objective guideline for the accreditation process.