Proposed A.S.I CSUSM Resolution: Adopting the A-G Course Sequence as the Default Curriculum for All Students in San Diego County

A campus-specific resolution directed on the behalf of Associated Students Incorporated at California State University San Marcos.

WHEREAS, the A-G course sequence is a rigorous course requirement mandated by the University of California (UC) and California State University (CSU) systems to ensure that our entering students are qualified and competent to pursue a higher education; and

WHEREAS, the Associated Students Incorporated at California State University San Marcos have a vested interest in ensuring that all San Diego County K-12 students have the equal opportunity to graduate and attend their college or career of choice; and

WHEREAS, if current trends persist about 41% of workers in the California economy in 2025 would need a bachelor's degree; and[1]

WHEREAS, altogether the colleges and universities in California would need to increase baccalaureates by an estimated 60,000 per year to meet the economic demand by 2025; and[2]

WHEREAS, supporting an A-G default curriculum would allow all students a post-secondary option (or career-technical education) by time of high school graduation, no matter what K-12 schools they attend; and

WHEREAS, it's estimated that San Diego has one of the lowest A-G completion rates in California, with only 40 % of high school graduates in San Diego County completing the A-G course sequence (Only 36% of high school graduates in the state of California actually completed the A-G curriculum in 2006-2007 with a grade of C or better), barring those 61% of students who don't complete the A-G sequence an education from CSUSM or any other CSU campus and University of California campus; and[3]

WHEREAS, socio-economic reasons should not hinder a student from satisfying the A-G sequence requirement, as low-income students, students of color, and ESL students often lack equal access to A-G courses; and

[1] Reed, Deborah. "California's Future Workforce." Public Policy Institute of California, San Francisco: 2008, pg 10. http://www.ppic.org/content/pubs/report/R_1208DRR.pdf

[2] Johnson, Hans; Sengupta, Ria. "Closing the Gap: Meeting California's Need for College Graduates." Public Policy Institute of California. San Francisco, 2009, pg 5. http://www.ppic.org/content/pubs/report/R_409HJR.pdf

[3] DataQuest. "12th Grade Graduates Completing all Courses Required for UC and/or CSU Entrance." California Department of Education. http://data1.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/ (data generated on March 26, 2008).

WHEREAS, the disparity between local high schools can be great enough that a school in a wealthy neighborhood can have 90% (or more) of their courses A-G certified, while another can have only 30% (or lower) of their overall courses being A-G certified; and4
WHEREAS, a commitment to a default A-G curriculum has already been endorsed by the Associated Students of San Diego State University and Alliant University, and University of California San Diego, and that the Associated Students Incorporated at California State University San Marcos should not fall behind in their support for local education equity initiatives;and
WHEREAS, low A-G completion rates in San Diego County undermine the University of California's mission to create a well-prepared workforce, an educated and informed citizenry, and stronger ties to the local community.
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Associated Students Incorporated of CSUSM utilize (to the best of their abilities) whatever resources to encourage and support all school districts of San Diego County to implement a default A-G curriculum, starting with the Education Consortium's goal of having S.D. Unified enroll all students in an A-G course sequence beginning with this year's 6th graders (Class of 2015);
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Associated Students Incorporated of CSUSM encourage, in whatever capacity, that all the SD County school districts align and dedicate resources to support professional development that ensures that all teachers are supported in researching, developing, and sharing rigorous, engaging, and culturally relevant curriculum and effective methods for the successful implementation of the more rigorous A-G curriculum for all students;
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Associated Students Incorporated of CSUSM in whatever capacity direct the San Diego County schools to strengthen and sustain the vocational and career technical education program so that it is more aligned with college preparatory requirements and will better prepare students to meet the demands of a skill-intensive economy;
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Associated Students Incorporated of CSUSM sign both this resolution and the attached petition, becoming an active partner in the Education Consortium of San Diego County.