~~GEC: Grade Minima for CSU General Education Courses in the “Golden Four”~~

***~~Rationale~~****~~: The current CSUSM practice for the “Golden Four” (Written Communication/English Composition, Mathematical Concepts/Quantitative Reasoning, Oral Communication and Critical Thinking) currently requires students to pass with a minimum grade of a D. In 2011, the Academic Senate for the California State University passed a resolution supporting the increase of the minimum grades to a C. Transfer students are already required to meet the minimum grade of C for the Golden Four. The GEC recommends that CSUSM also adopt this policy for native students to ensure equity across the entire student body. Attached is a spreadsheet illustrating the grade distribution in Golden Four courses.~~*

***~~Definition~~****~~:~~*

***~~Authority~~****~~:~~*

***~~Scope~~****~~: Undergraduate students~~*

~~The General Education requirements in Areas A1 (Oral Communication), A2 (Written Communication), A3 (critical Thinking) and B4 (Mathematics/Quantitative Reasoning) must be passed with a minimum grade of C (2.0).~~

GEC: Resolution in Support of ASCSU’s Resolution on the Grade Minima for CSU General Education Courses in the “Golden Four”

WHEREAS, in 2011, the Academic Senate for the California State University passed a resolution supporting the increase of the minimum grades to a C, and

WHEREAS, the current CSUSM policy for the “Golden Four” (Written Communication/English Composition, Mathematical Concepts/Quantitative Reasoning, Oral Communication and Critical Thinking) currently requires students to pass with a minimum grade of a D minus, and

WHEREAS, the California State University currently requires that transfer students complete a minimum grade of C in the “Golden Four,” it is

RESOLVED, that the GEC recommends the formation of a task force to examine the potential impact of raising the minimum grade to a C for B4 courses, and be it further

RESOLVED, that this task force focus its efforts on discovering strategies that will help 80% or more of the students in B4 courses meet the minimum passing grade of C, and be it further

RESOLVED, that this task force report its findings by the end of Academic Year 2013/14 to the Academic Senate.

Golden Four Grade Minimum Task Force

Membership to include:

One faculty representative from the Mathematics Department

One faculty representative from Computer Science Department

One faculty representative from the General Education Committee

Faculty coordinator of the General Education Writing Program

One representative from College of Science & Math Dean’s Office

AVP for Academic Programs

One representative from the Graduation Initiative Steering Committee

One representative from Student Affairs

Charge:

The task force will investigate the potential impact to departments and the university of offering B4 general education courses if the minimum passing grade were raised to a C (instead of a D minus). In particular the task force should examine:

* Other models, both within (e.g., GEW) and without CSUSM, of programs that have successfully enhanced student proficiency in a general education area
* Financial and resource implications of strategies that could increase student proficiency in B4 courses
* Implications of the change for graduation and retention rates
* Strategies for avoiding the potential for grade inflation in B4 courses
* Implications of the change for lecturers and tenure-track faculty at the ranks of Assistant and Associate Professor

The committee will report its findings to the Academic Senate by the end of academic year 2013/14.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Row Labels** | **C thru A** |  **C-** | **D+** | **D** | **D-** | **F** | **I** | **IC** | **RD** | **RP** | **U** | **W** | **WU** | **Grand Total** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **A1 GEO 102** | **94.9%** | **0.9%** | **0.5%** | **0.8%** | **0.1%** | **1.5%** |  |  |  |  |  | **0.7%** | **0.6%** | **4582** |
|  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |
| **A2 GEW 101** | **88.5%** | **1.2%** | **1.0%** | **1.8%** | **0.4%** | **4.2%** |  |  |  | **1.0%** |  | **0.9%** | **1.0%** | **4925** |
|  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |
| **A3** | **92.2%** | **1.6%** | **0.9%** | **1.5%** | **0.5%** | **2.2%** |  |  |  |  |  | **0.8%** | **0.3%** | **5025** |
|  A3 LTWR 115 | 91.0% | 1.4% | 1.4% | 1.9% | 0.2% | 1.4% |   |   |   |   |   | 1.0% | 1.7% | 420 |
|  A3 PHIL 110 | 91.6% | 1.9% | 1.0% | 1.4% | 0.6% | 2.4% |   |   |   |   |   | 0.9% | 0.1% | 3854 |
| A3 PSYC 110 | 95.7% |   |   | 1.9% |   | 1.3% |   |   |   |   |   | 0.3% | 0.8% | 750 |
|  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |
| **B4** | **71.9%** | **3.5%** | **1.5%** | **8.2%** | **1.2%** | **12.8%** |  |  |  |  |  | **0.6%** | **0.1%** | **6811** |
| B4 GEM/MATH 100 | 81.9% | 4.9% | 1.3% | 5.3% | 1.0% | 5.6% |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | 304 |
| B4 MATH 115 | 69.4% | 4.3% | 1.4% | 9.7% | 1.5% | 13.7% |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | 2940 |
| B4 MATH 125 | 74.7% | 2.1% | 1.5% | 8.0% | 0.4% | 13.2% | 0.1% |   |   |   |   |   |   | 1052 |
| B4 MATH 132 | 73.4% | 2.5% | 2.5% | 7.6% | 1.6% | 12.1% |   | 0.2% | 0.1% |   |   |   |   | 1109 |
| B4 MATH 160 | 62.1% | 4.1% | 1.8% | 7.4% | 1.5% | 19.0% |   |   |   |   |   | 4.1% |   | 852 |
|  B4 MATH 200 | 92.1% | 2.1% | 1.1% | 0.5% |   | 3.2% |   |   |   |   |   | 1.1% |   | 190 |
|  B4 MATH 212 | 83.2% | 2.7% |   | 6.0% |   | 3.8% |   |   |   |   |   | 1.4% | 2.7% | 364 |