

Resolutions Regarding SB 850

13.01 S14 Researching the Feasibility of the CCC Bachelor's Degree

Whereas, The California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office recently released a report from the California Community Colleges Baccalaureate Degree Study Group¹ on the topic of expanding the mission of community colleges in the state to include the awarding of bachelor's degrees, and the report concludes with a recommendation that the topic "merits serious review and study;"

Whereas, The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges currently is opposed to adding bachelor's degrees to the mission of California community colleges, Resolution 6.01 S10², but given changes in the labor market and fewer spaces available for transfer students at California State University campuses, faculty may want to reconsider this position; and

Whereas, Any comprehensive change to the mission of the California community colleges should include comment and input from many California State University and the University of California colleagues, and the composition of the California community college study group that produced the report included no faculty representation from these two segments;

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges strongly recommend that, before any action is taken to change the mission of the California community colleges to include the awarding of bachelor's degrees, a comprehensive feasibility study and environmental scan by independent researchers be conducted and distributed to the colleges for information, deliberation, and further recommendations to the Legislature.

+13.01.01 S14Amend Resolution 13.01 S14

Amend the resolved:

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges strongly recommend that, before any action is taken to change the mission of the California community colleges to include the awarding of bachelor's degrees, a comprehensive feasibility study and environmental scan by independent, unbiased researchers be conducted and distributed to the colleges for information, deliberation, and further recommendations to the legislature.

¹The full report is found at

http://californiacommunitycolleges.cccco.edu/portals/0/reportsTB/2014_01_BacDegree_StudyGroup_WEB.pdf

²The full text of resolution 6.01 S10 is found at <http://asccc.org/resolutions/opposition-proposed-modification-community-college-mission>

+13.01.02 S14 Amend Resolution 13.01 S14

Amend the second whereas:

Whereas, The Academic Senate currently is opposed to adding bachelor's degrees to the mission of California community colleges, Resolution 6.01 S10, and does not seek to alter that position until such time as the research proposed by the Baccalaureate Degree Study Group has been conducted and the body is provided with a comprehensive opportunity to consider these data before any efforts are made to revise its current position ~~but given changes in the labor market and fewer spaces available for transfer students at California State University campuses, faculty may want to reconsider this position;~~ and

Amend the resolved:

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges strongly recommend that, before any action is taken to change the mission of the California community colleges to include the awarding of bachelor's degrees, a comprehensive feasibility study and environmental scan by independent, unbiased researchers be conducted and distributed to the colleges ~~to for information,~~ the body for deliberation and possible reconsideration of existing positions, ~~and further recommendations to the legislature.~~

+13.02 S14 Applied Baccalaureate Degrees Offered by the California Community Colleges and Cooperation with the California State University System

Whereas, There are 21 states in which community colleges are offering baccalaureate degrees and the State of California has passed and is contemplating additional legislation enabling community colleges to offer baccalaureate degrees at the same time the demand for applied baccalaureates in technical fields is increasing, with projections for the demand for all baccalaureates to exceed the capacity of the public and private universities to provide these, with a projected shortfall of 60,000 degrees by 2025³;

Whereas, Authorizing California community colleges to offer degrees not offered by the University of California and the California State University systems would increase access for underserved areas and populations, benefit the State's economy, and remove barriers to completion;

Whereas, There are numerous issues such as funding, funding mechanisms, student fees, and the California community college mission that would need to be explored; and

Whereas, The California State University System neither offers nor is projected to offer these degrees;

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges support the concept of applied baccalaureates in technical fields being offered at the California community college that are neither offered nor projected to be offered in the University of California or California State University systems;

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges work with the California Community College Chancellor's Office, the Board of Governors, California State University faculty and system representatives, and legislators to draft or support legislation enabling the offering of applied baccalaureate degrees by California community colleges in areas agreed to by the California State University System; and

Resolved, That Academic Senate for California Community Colleges support colleges that proceed towards implementation of applied baccalaureate degrees as acceptable answers to issues involved in areas such as funding, funding mechanisms, student fees, and community college mission are found.

³For more information, go to

<http://extranet.cccco.edu/Portals/1/AA/Miscellaneous/BaccalaureateDegreeStudyGroup/CaliforniaDemandfor4YearDegrees.pdf>