**RESOLUTION: CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY’S PROPOSED REDUCTION OF AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS COURSES AND IMPACT ON THE CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES**

**Whereas:** The General Education Task Force (GETF) created by the California State University (CSU) Academic Senate, which was charged with streamlining general education requirements, did not allow public input and did not include a single faculty member from the History, Political Science, Women’s Studies, or Ethnic Studies disciplines or departments of the CSU system; and

**Whereas**: Only one faculty member from the California Community Colleges (CCC), named by the Academic Senate of the California Community Colleges, was included on the GETF, which individual was not even from a department which offers instruction that fulfills the American Institutions (AI) requirement of the CSU and derivatively of the CCC; and

**Whereas:** Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations §40404, paragraph (a) states, “The purpose of the following requirements is to ensure that students acquire knowledge and skills that will help them to comprehend the workings of American democracy and of the society in which they live to enable them to contribute to that society as responsible and constructive citizens. To this end each campus shall provide for comprehensive study of American history and American government including the historical development of American institutions and ideals, the Constitution of the United States and the operation of representative democratic government under that Constitution, and the processes of state and local government. To qualify for graduation each student shall demonstrate competence by completing courses in the foregoing fields or by passing comprehensive examinations in those fields…” and

**Whereas:** The GETF’s *General Education Task Force Report* (2019) proposes a fifty-percent reduction in the AI requirement for CSU Bachelor’s degrees, down to one 3-semester-unit course; and

**Whereas:** History, Political Science, Women’s Studies, and Ethnic Studies faculty of the California State University agree that a minimum of two three-unit courses is required to satisfy the Title 5 mandate, on AI; and

**Whereas:** The colleges in the California Community Colleges system (CCC) are committed to providing their students with a robust civic education by offering courses in history, political science, ethnic studies, and women’s studies which promote student understanding of the United States Constitution, state government, and United States history; and

**Whereas:** The CCC AI courses articulate to the CSU system and fulfill the CSU AI requirement; and

**Whereas:** A major component of the total lower-division curriculum of the History, Political Science, Women’s Studies, and Ethic Studies programs/departments of the 115 colleges in the CCC is designed to assist students in meeting the AI requirement; and

**Whereas:** If the recommendation to reduce the course work needed for completion of the CSU AI requirement were to be adopted, there would be significant disruption to the continued employment of thousands of CCC adjunct instructors and even of tenure-line faculty statewide who teach AI courses in the CCC History, Political Science, Women’s Studies, and Ethnic Studies programs/departments; and

**Whereas**: The GETF Report does not even address these consequences for the CCC faculty labor force; therefore, be it

**Resolved:** That the American Federation of Teachers, Local 1931 (AFT Guild) urges the CSU Chancellor to delay implementation of the GETF’s proposed changes to the American Institution requirement until a full public discussion of the proposal occurs that includes CSU and CCC faculty members from History, Political Science, Women’s Studies, and Ethnic Studies; and be it further

**Resolved:** That the AFT Guild calls upon the CSU and CCC systems, in consultation with the unions representing faculty in those systems, to address the contractual implications on faculty employment that would follow from implementation of the GETF recommended reduction of the AI requirement; and be it further

**Resolved**: That the AFT Guild calls upon the California Federation of Teachers to disseminate this information to its locals and to elected officials, urging them to consider the implications of the GETF recommendation for the Community College Faculty labor force and their constituents.