S19-7, University Policy, Credit Hours and Maximum Unit Load during Summer and Intersession

Rescinds: S75-12

Legislative History:
At its meeting of May 13, 2019, the Academic Senate approved the following policy recommendation presented by Senator Sullivan-Green for the Instruction and Student Affairs Committee.

WHEREAS: In July 1974, The Board of Trustees repealed Section 40201 of Title V, thus (1) repealing the maximum number of units a student can earn in any California State University and College Summer Session, and (2) leaving the control of summer session student workload a campus matter, as is the case for regular terms, and

WHEREAS: On July 1, 2011, federal law (Title 34, Code of Federal Regulations, sections 600.2 and 600.4) requires all accredited institutions to comply with the federal definition of the credit hour. For all CSU degree programs and courses bearing academic credit, the "credit hour" is defined as the amount of work represented in intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement that is an institutionally established equivalency that reasonably approximates not less than (1) one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours of out-of-class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester hour of credit, or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time; or (2) at least an equivalent amount of work as required in (1) of this definition for other academic activities as established by the institution, including laboratory work, internships, practice, studio work, and other academic work leading to the award of credit hours; and (3) a credit hour is assumed to be a 50-minute period, and
WHEREAS: In Fall 2017, the Organization and Government Committee called for review of S75-12, Maximum Unit Load during Intersession; Summer Session; Credit Hours, finding that it sets a maximum number of units a student can earn in intersession that does not correspond with current enrollment unit limits for Summer and Winter sessions, and

WHEREAS: The following proposed policy, is in exact proportion to the University policy on students' workload in effect for regular semesters during the academic year, and follows similar procedures for exceptions to the stated policy; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That S75-12 Maximum Unit Load During Intersession; Summer Session; Credit Hours be rescinded and the following policy adopted:

University Policy
Credit Hours and Maximum Unit Load During Intersession and Summer Session

1. Students may register for a maximum of four semester units during a three-week session, and six units during a five-week session, and twelve units during a ten-week session without special approval.

2. Students wishing to register for additional units must obtain written approval from the Associate Dean of the College in which the student’s major is housed, using the same procedures and requirements as utilized during the regular semester program of the University.

Approved: April 29, 2019
Vote: 12-0-0
Present: Gill, Grindstaff (EXO, non-voting), Hill, Hurtado, Khan, Kim, Kinney, Manzo, Pang, Sen, Sullivan-Green, Walters, Wilson
Financial impact: None
Workload impact: None