Effective Practices in Online Communications Courses

Whereas, California Code of Regulations Title 5 §55202 states that distance education courses must adhere to the “same standards of course quality” as traditional classroom courses and that determinations of course standards and quality must be made “with the full involvement of faculty,” and given that the separate course review and approval of distance education courses required by Title 5 §55206 maintains districts’ local authority to determine if courses will “be provided through distance education”;

Whereas, California State University (CSU) Executive Order 1100, section 3.2 states “GE requirements may be satisfied through courses taught in all modalities” including “completely online,”¹ and many speech and oral communications classes offered by California community colleges satisfy the A1 requirement of the CSU-Breadth Pattern for General Education;

Whereas, For-profit colleges, CSU campuses, and some California community colleges currently offer communications courses, including public speaking, online; and

Whereas, Many students endeavor to achieve their degrees completely online, and restricting online course offerings for GE requirements creates a barrier to these students’ success;

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges conduct research and survey the field on effective and promising practices in teaching communications courses online and publish and distribute its findings.

Contact: Geoffrey Dyer, Taft College

¹ https://www.calstate.edu/eo/EO-1100-rev-8-23-17.html