

Resolution FA10.06 Basic Skills and College-Level Courses
SBVC Academic Senate Executive Committee

Whereas, the July 2007 publication, *Basic Skills as a Foundation for Student Success in California Community Colleges*, listed best practices found in the literature that included:

- Institutional policies facilitate student completion of necessary developmental coursework as early as possible in the educational sequence

because students succeed in college-level courses at a higher rate and if they possess the necessary basic skills, and,

Whereas, at the Spring 2009 statewide Student Senate plenary session, students voted to endorse the broad establishment of prerequisites and requested that faculty include the following in their discussions for implementation:

- Availability of basic skills courses
- Co-requisites where appropriate to help sustain student motivation
- A clearly articulated phase-in plan for implementation

and,

Whereas, at the Spring 2009 Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC) plenary session, the faculty voted to approve a Title 5 change to permit the implementation of basic skills prerequisites through rigorous content review. Avenues for incorporating the change to Title 5 are underway and research is being conducted to provide guidance in the rigorous content review process (expected adoption at the Spring 2011 ASCCC plenary session). This will supplement current Title 5 language that requires that all college level courses to assess critical thinking through writing or computation and current Model District Policy that requires appropriate skill prerequisites, and

Whereas, current SBVC campus-wide dialog has reflected serious concerns regarding access, programmatic integrity during and such transition in the future – whether externally or internally determined, and implementation concerns,

Resolved, the San Bernardino Valley College Academic Senate supports the principle that most college level courses require some competency in reading, writing, and/or computation, and,

Resolved, the SBVC Academic Senate encourages continued monitoring of state-wide events and determinations and begins planning how any change to our current model can successfully balance the Academic Senate's commitment to academic rigor, student access, and student success.