

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, BAKERSFIELD  
ACADEMIC SENATE

**Emergency Resolutions Related to the Transition to Alternative Delivery**

RES 192014

Senate EC

- RESOLVED:** that the Academic Senate adopt the following strategies on a temporary basis to facilitate decision-making during the remainder of the Spring 2020 semester:
1. All meetings of the Academic Senate, the Senate Executive Committee, and the four Senate Subcommittees will be conducted online using Zoom at the scheduled dates and times.
  2. Subcommittee chairs shall work with their committee members to determine one of the following actions for each pending referral:
    - a. Draft a resolution for presentation to the Senate if appropriate.
    - b. Table the item and report follow up recommendations back to the Executive Committee.
  3. Subcommittees will continue to meet as needed to handle existing referrals.
  4. The Senate Executive Committee will be empowered to provide feedback on urgent matters on behalf of the Academic Senate to the President and Provost and draft resolutions for presentation to the Academic Senate; and be it further
- RESOLVED:** that the University Handbook policy requiring faculty members to obtain certification through Quality Matters in order to deliver online instruction be suspended through the end of the Spring 2020 semester; and be it further
- RESOLVED:** that the Academic Senate recommend to the President and Provost that all faculty searches approved for 2019-2020 be kept active, with the following guidelines:
1. Departments that wish to move forward with current faculty searches using technology-mediated communication platforms should be permitted to do so.
  2. Departments that wish to postpone their searches until campus visits and face-to-face activities resume will be allowed to extend their timelines into the next academic year. Current searches for both replacement and expansion faculty lines should remain allocated to departments and permitted to resume when appropriate, and at the discretion of the department be carried into next year without penalty, if necessary.

**RATIONALE:**

The suspension of face-to-face instruction and meetings was initiated on March 17, 2020 by President Zelezny as part of a systemwide public health strategy to decrease the spread of COVID-19. In order to sustain active shared governance in conditions of uncertainty, during rapid and significant changes to the faculty role, and out of concern for student learning, the Academic Senate must temporarily adopt strategies to facilitate and expedite decision-making.

The transition to Alternative Delivery has required faculty to utilize various technology-mediated instructional approaches, including online instruction. Under the circumstances, it is reasonable to temporarily suspend the online certification requirement so that faculty can rapidly develop curricula that meet their students' needs. The Faculty Teaching and Learning Center (FTLC) is providing targeted professional development on an as-needed basis to any faculty member who requests it.

Faculty searches have been impacted by systemwide restrictions on face-to-face contact and public health recommendations regarding the importance of social distancing. While some departments may prefer to move forward with technology-mediated search and screening activities, other departments report that such procedures would be unworkable for their disciplines. The faculty of each department are best able to determine the schedule and conditions for their searches.

Approved by the Senate March 19, 2020

Sent to the President March 30, 2020

**Distribution List:**

President

Provost

School Deans

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General Faculty