



Faculty Senate of the California State University Maritime Academy

Resolution 23-24/0

First Reading: April 18, 2024

Vote (For/Against/Abstain): 16/0/0

RESOLUTION - First Year Mathematics and EO 1110 in the COVID Era

WHEREAS: Executive Order 1110 went into effect in 2017 and the educational landscape has changed dramatically since then, particularly in mathematics; and,

WHEREAS: Executive Order 1110, by mandating the elimination of traditional remedial classes and imposing strict limits on course offerings, significantly constrains the CSU system's flexibility to provide the necessary additional classroom time and educational opportunities that could mitigate the COVID-19 learning loss; and,

WHEREAS: categories for mathematics placement delineated in EO 1110 were developed with the use of standardized test scores (SAT/ACT) which are no longer required for admission to the CSU; and,

WHEREAS: the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in unprecedented educational disruption, causing significant learning loss among students nationwide, with California being notably affected, as documented in studies by [UCLA School of Education & Information Studies](#), and highlighted in [The New York Times](#); and,

WHEREAS: the recovery in California from COVID-19 learning loss in mathematics has been slow and students are still currently approximately [one year behind the 2019 national average](#); and,

WHEREAS: this learning loss spans nearly all demographic groups but disproportionately impacts students from lower socioeconomic backgrounds, exacerbating existing educational inequalities; and,

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY MARITIME ACADEMY

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WHEREAS: this learning loss is not isolated to current students nor specific courses, with learning loss happening at different points during students' educational trajectories, thus disrupting higher education significantly for at least the next decade; and,

WHEREAS: experts, including those from the [Harvard Graduate School of Education](#), have emphasized the need for increased classroom time, remediation, and targeted support to address these educational setbacks; and,

WHEREAS: the CSU has not undertaken a system-wide study on mathematics preparation and placement after the implementation of EO 1110 nor a system-wide evaluation of the needs of current students with regards to mathematics preparation and placement; and,

WHEREAS: at Cal Maritime, content coverage in College Algebra & Trigonometry since Fall 2020 has changed drastically to meet the needs of our students, expanding review of remedial concepts to three weeks out of the fifteen week semester, significantly curtailing coverage of content needed for subsequent courses; and,

WHEREAS: given the significant decline in student preparedness for college, Cal Maritime mathematics faculty have implemented crucial adjustments to the corequisite course for College Algebra beginning Fall 2020. This course now comprises 50% study skills and resilience methodologies, resulting in a reduction in the coverage of just-in-time remedial mathematics. Although this modification was essential to address the needs of our students, the constraints set by EO 1110 have necessitated a further decrease in mathematical content coverage; and,

WHEREAS: since Fall 2019, Cal Maritime mathematics faculty have measured student preparedness through a standardized Course Readiness Assessment administered in the first week of College Algebra courses, and the pass rate for this assessment has dropped from 67% pre-COVID to 40% post-COVID and has held steady post-COVID. Therefore, be it:

RESOLVED: that the Faculty Senate of Cal Maritime strongly encourages the Academic Senate of the CSU (ASCSU) and Math Council of the CSU to urge the Chancellor's Office to undertake a thorough investigation of how Executive Order 1110 and COVID-19 learning loss are impacting students and faculty across all CSU campuses, with a particular focus on mathematics preparation and placement, in order to develop a more comprehensive understanding of the challenges faced by the CSU system in the post-pandemic era; and be it further

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RESOLVED: that the Faculty Senate of Cal Maritime calls for the CSU Chancellor's Office to urgently undertake a study of the constraints imposed by EO1110 and their impact, to inform the reconsideration of remedial courses and more flexible academic pathways tailored to address the learning deficits caused by the pandemic; and be it further

RESOLVED: that the Faculty Senate of Cal Maritime urges the CSU Chancellor's Office to support the development and implementation of targeted educational strategies, including but not limited to extended classroom time, tutoring, and summer programs, specifically designed to address the needs of students affected by the COVID-19 learning loss; and be it further

RESOLVED: that the Faculty Senate of Cal Maritime requests a collaborative effort between the CSU Chancellor's Office, CSU Math Council, CSU mathematics faculty, and educational experts to create a responsive educational framework that prioritizes the recovery from COVID-19 learning loss, ensuring all students have the opportunity to succeed academically; and be it further

RESOLVED: that this resolution reflects the commitment of the Faculty Senate of Cal Maritime to overcoming the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, advocating for policies that allow for academic recovery and progress without compromising the quality of education within the CSU system; and be it further

RESOLVED: that Faculty Senate distribute this resolution to:

- Governor of the State of California
- The CSU Board of Trustees
- The CSU Chancellor's Office
- The Academic Senate of the CSU (ASCSU)
- CSU Campus Academic Senate Chairs
- CSU Provosts/Vice Presidents of Academic Affairs
- The CSU Math Council
- The President of California State University Maritime Academy