University Faculty Senate Florida Atlantic University

Resolution in Opposition to Proposed Legislation Requiring the University to Recognize High-School Credits in Computer Coding Courses as Foreign Language Credits

Whereas the University Faculty Senate (UFS) of Florida Atlantic University (FAU) is committed to preparing students to engage an increasingly global and competitive workforce;

Whereas the study of a foreign language offers well-documented affective, cognitive, and social benefits, in addition to the ability to communicate across certain cultural and language barriers;

Whereas FAU's undergraduate admissions requirements currently include 2 units of foreign language study at the high-school level as necessary preparation for FAU's baccalaureate degree programs, most of which require an additional 2-course sequence in a foreign language at the college level;

Whereas the members of the UFS consider competency in a foreign language to be an essential skill both for global citizenship and for success in a modern, mobile workforce;

Whereas broad competency in a foreign language among FAU's undergraduate students is crucial to several elements of FAU's Strategic Plan, including most directly its scholarly platforms in Community Engagement and Economic Development; Global Perspectives and Participation; Peace, Justice, and Human Rights; and South Florida Culture;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the UFS opposes any legislation requiring FAU to accept other courses, including courses in a computer coding language, in lieu of foreign language credits at the high-school level in its undergraduate admissions process.