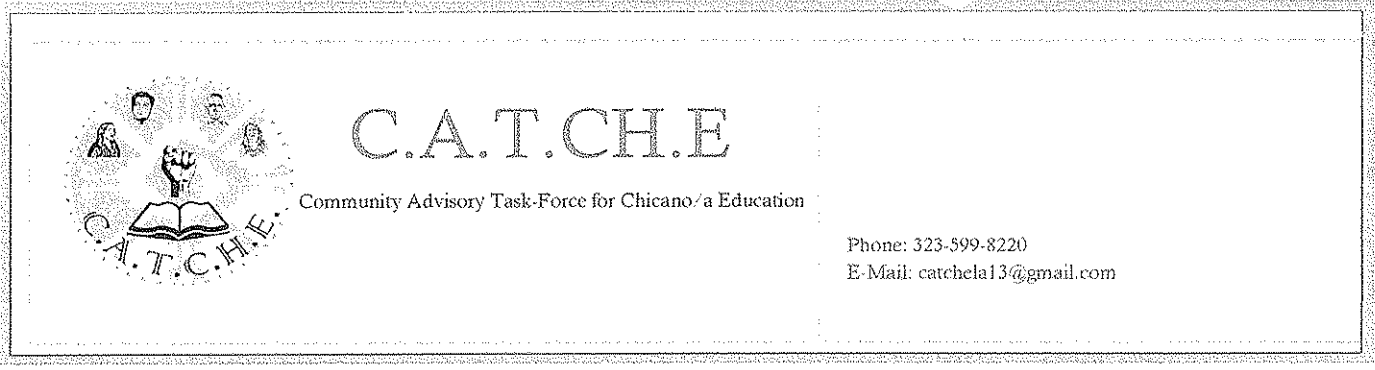


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February 17, 2014

The Community Advisory Task-Force for Chicano/a Education (CATCHE) was formed by Cal State LA students in 2013 to begin to work together with the community and CSULA to strengthen and expand the scope of Ethnic Studies. CATCHE community organizations include the Association of Mexican American Educators, the Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council, Community Service Organization, and Raza Studies Now. CATCHE fully supports the motion to mandate one Ethnic Studies class as part of the GE diversity requirement. This motion is consistent with the goal of CATCHE to expand and strengthen the scope of Ethnic Studies in general.

The following are questions and talking points that were compiled by a study group within CATCHE. We would like to ask the Academic Senate to consider these questions as public commentary.

- 1) Statements have been made that the motion isn't inclusive enough. While we are aware that many different courses may satisfy the diversity requirement, we don't see how making one class from Ethnic Studies a requirement is entirely exclusive. Requirements are requirements; they are inclusive and exclusive by virtue of being requirements. General Education requirements speak to the level of institutional support and the kind of knowledge the university believes should form a part of each student's foundation. We would ask, how then is this requirement deemed exclusive apart from any other requirement?
- 2) The motion with respect to the mandatory discussion of the intersectionality of race, ethnicity, gender and socioeconomic class within the diversity requirement is an example of a requirement. Since Ethnic Studies already incorporates these discussions, wouldn't requiring one class in Ethnic Studies be a natural complement to such a motion?
- 3) If the motion at hand were to create an undue burden that would overwhelm any Ethnic Studies department and impact the quality of their operation, we would ask, what then could the university do to resolve any such impact? We believe that there is room for depth and breadth in any vibrant department.

Sincerely,

The Community Partners of CATCHE

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