Resolution to Oppose to Create a New Discipline: Teacher Education As Presented at the ASCCC Spring Plenary, 2013

WHEREAS, the ASCCC is voting on the creation of a new discipline: Teacher Education along with a set of minimum qualifications for teaching within this discipline;

WHEREAS, the minimum qualifications to teach in this discipline were designed to specifically exclude a Master’s Degree in Child Development, Early Childhood Education or Human Development. It is unclear as to why those who are championing this new degree feel that individuals possessing those degrees are not qualified to teach education;

WHEREAS, the new transitional Kindergartens are drawing upon Child Development/Early Childhood Education as a resource base for their teaching;

WHEREAS, the Growth and Development classes offered by the Child Development Department have been incorporated into the Elementary Education TMC;

WHEREAS, early Childhood Education is a discipline that specifically addresses learning and teaching, while many other disciplines included in the list do not;

WHEREAS, a Master’s Degree in Early Childhood Education or Child Development does include strong preparation in pedagogy and child development from infancy through adolescence, with study related to each academic domains addressed in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade;

RESOLVED, the Bakersfield College Academic Senate opposes the creation of the new discipline: Teacher Education, at the State Academic Senate Spring Plenary Session, 2013, as long as the minimum qualifications exclude Master’s Degree in Child Development, Early Childhood Education or Human Development.