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4 **PHILOSOPHY AND CRITERIA FOR ASSOCIATE DEGREE AND GENERAL EDUCATION**
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6 The philosophy and criteria for the associate degree and general education should address the
7 considerations contained in the references listed above. These include, but are not limited to:

8 The programs of the District are consistent with the institutional mission, purposes, demographics
9 and economics of its community.

10 The philosophy and criteria regarding the associate degree references the policy of the Board of
11 Governors that the associate degree symbolizes a successful attempt to lead students through
12 patterns of learning experiences designed to develop certain capabilities and insight, including
13 the ability to:

- 14 • think and communicate clearly and effectively orally and writing;
- 15 • use mathematics;
- 16 • understand the modes of inquiry of the major disciplines;
- 17 • be aware of other cultures and times;
- 18 • achieve insights gained through experience in thinking about ethical problems; and
- 19 • to develop the capacity for self understanding.

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21 The philosophy and criteria regarding general education references the policy of the Board of
22 Governors that general education should lead to better self-understanding, including:
23 General education is designed to introduce students to the variety of means through which
24 people comprehend the modern world.

25 General education introduces the content and methodology of the major areas of knowledge and
26 provides an opportunity for students to develop intellectual skills, information technology facility,
27 affective and creative capabilities, social attitudes, and an appreciation for cultural diversity.

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29 Procedures to determine which courses implement this philosophy are developed by each college
30 and are documented in the respective curriculum handbooks.

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33 References:
34 Title 5, Section 55061
35 Accreditation Standard II.A.3.

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45 Approved: February, 2009