

February 17, 2016

Dear Colleagues:

We are pleased to transmit to you the *2015 Statement on Competencies in the Natural Sciences Expected of Entering Freshmen*. This document is the result of collaboration among community college and university science faculty to address the changes in high school science education as a result of the revised California Science Standards adopted by the California Department of Education in September 2013. It replaces the previous competency statement produced and approved by the Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates (ICAS) in 1988. The document is structured around concepts that are common to all scientific disciplines to allow students to explore similar ideas from different perspectives.

The Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates, representing the academic senates of the three segments of California's higher education system, sponsored the efforts that produced this document. The Academic Senates of the California Community Colleges, the California State University, and the University of California all have endorsed this document and offer it as their official recommendation on preparation in the natural sciences to the K-12 sector, to students and their parents, to teachers and administrators, and to public policy makers.

Please share this statement with your colleagues, distribute it widely, or refer interested parties to the ICAS website to download the document: <http://icas-ca.org/>.

Sincerely,

David Morse, President  
CCC Academic Senate

Steven Filing, Chair  
CSU Academic Senate

J. Daniel Hare, Chair  
UC Academic Senate