March 12, 2007

TO:  San José State University Campus Community
FROM:  Don W. Kassing, President
SUBJECT:  Access to Electronic and Information Technology Policy for Persons with Disabilities

San José State University (SJSU) is committed to providing an inclusive environment responsive to the needs of all students, and therefore information technology resources, services and programs will be made accessible and inclusive for persons with disabilities, whether they are members of the campus community or the general public. The identification and removal of barriers and assurance of consistent access for people with disabilities is at the heart of our Vision 2010 strategic plans and our efforts to achieve inclusive excellence in all aspects of the university, and is a fundamental component of the California State University (CSU) academic mission.

Pursuant to CSU Coded Memoranda AA-2006-41 and AA-2007-04, the attached Presidential Directive (PD 2007-02) describes the university’s policy and guidelines for the development and monitoring of programs that ensure access to electronic and information technology for all faculty, staff, students, and the public. Information and requirements related to this initiative are available at: http://www.sjsu.edu/accessibility/

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attachments (2)
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MEMO TO: San José State University Campus Community

FROM: President Don W. Kassing

SUBJECT: Presidential Directive 2007-02
Access to Electronic and Information Technology
Policy for Persons with Disabilities

I. Introduction

San José State University (SJSU) is committed to providing an inclusive environment responsive to the needs of all students, and therefore information technology resources, services and programs will be made accessible and inclusive for persons with disabilities, whether they are members of the campus community or the general public. The identification and removal of barriers and assurance of consistent access for people with disabilities is at the heart of our Vision 2010 strategic plans and our efforts to achieve inclusive excellence in all aspects of the university, and is a fundamental component of the California State University (CSU) academic mission.

This document describes the university’s policy and guidelines for the development and monitoring of programs that ensure access to electronic and information technology for all faculty, staff, students, and the public. Information and requirements related to this initiative are available at: http://www.sjsu.edu/accessibility/

II. Purpose

The purpose of this Presidential Directive is to assure that SJSU continues to comply with federal and state legislation and CSU policies regarding the provision of services to members of the campus community and the general public.

This Presidential Directive has been developed in response to federal and state laws, including but not limited to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990; Section 255 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996; and the California Government Code 11135 of 2003 which applies Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act as amended in 1998 to the CSU, and the “Policy for Access to Electronic and Information Technology for Persons with Disabilities,” coded memorandum AA 2007-04, the California State University System.
III. History

In January of 2005, the CSU issued Executive Order 926, the CSU Policy on Disability Support and Accommodations. This Executive Order provides the groundwork for the CSU to address all aspects of disability access and inclusion. On September 28, 2006, Coded Memorandum AA-2006-41, “Access to Electronic and Information Technology for Persons with Disabilities,” initiated the coordination of a multi-year effort by all 23 CSU campuses to ensure that information technology resources, services and programs are made accessible and inclusive for people with disabilities.

At SJSU, the Provost is the Executive Sponsor for this initiative. The SJSU Accessible Technology Initiative (ATI) Task Force, in collaboration with three working teams appointed by the Provost, will develop Implementation Plans, coordinate responsibility for compliance, and generate reports of ongoing monitoring activities.

IV. Policy

Electronic and Information Technology refers to all programs and services provided to faculty, staff and students through computer or electronic media. This includes, but is not limited to computer and network access and services, computer-delivered or enhanced instruction, library electronic information resources, library online catalogs and homepages, campus informational web sites, computer-delivered or assisted administrative services, and voice and video programs and services.

It is the policy of SJSU that access to electronic and information technology will be provided to persons with disabilities. SJSU will:

- ensure that campus computer and network access and services, including web sites, web applications and digital content be made accessible to persons with disabilities.
- ensure that instructional materials, including online course materials, be made accessible to persons with disabilities in order to provide them with effective communication.
- continue to comply with Section 508 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act requirements for Electronic and Information Technology Procurements including web applications, hardware and software, telecommunications, multimedia and self-contained closed products like copiers, fax machines and kiosks.

V. SJSU Implementation Plans

The SJSU ATI Task Force, working with the CSU ATI team, will develop three Accessibility Implementation Plans, consistent with the requirements specified by CSU Executive Order 926 and coded memorandum AA 2007-04. The Implementation Plans will address access related to:

- websites and other web technologies
- instructional materials
- electronic and information technology procurement

All university programs and departments are expected to comply with plans, implementation strategies and timelines developed by the SJSU ATI Task Force and its subcommittees, and with any related policies developed by the Academic Senate to support this initiative.