

**SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY
ONE WASHINGTON SQUARE
SAN JOSE, CA 95192**

SS-F09-2, Sense of the Senate Resolution, Opposition to the Reduction in State Support to the CSU System and a Call for Advocacy

Legislative History: At its meeting of December 7, 2009, the Academic Senate approved the following Sense of the Senate Resolution presented by Senator Gleixner for the Instruction and Student Affairs Committee.

**Sense of the Senate Resolution
Opposition to the Reduction in State Support to the CSU System and
a Call for Advocacy**

- Whereas The 2009-10 budget approved by the California state legislature on 7/24/09 and Governor Schwarzenegger on 7/28/09 has a reduction of funding to the CSU system of \$584 million; and
- Whereas This reduction is not only based on a shrinking California general fund but is a significant shift in the percentage of the general fund the CSU receives; and
- Whereas Coupled with a 10% student fee increase approved by the CSU board of Trustees on 5/12/09 and an additional 20% student fee increase approved by the CSU board of Trustees on 7/21/09, there was a significant shift in the funding of the CSU; and
- Whereas This move toward a smaller fraction of state support is just the latest and largest move in that direction and runs counter to the California Master Plan; and
- Whereas The drastic reduction in State support to the CSU system is a permanent reduction to the base funding of the system that is unprecedented in both magnitude and implementation time; and
- Whereas State investment in higher education stimulates direct and indirect economic growth through the expenditures of the University system and its students, increased earnings of its graduates, and growth in knowledge based services and high technology manufacturing created by its graduates. "Working for California: The Impact of the California State University", a 2004 study by the CSU, found a \$4.41 return to the State economy for every \$1 invested in the CSU; and

- Whereas Since the inception of the California Master Plan for Higher Education in 1960, the central mission of the CSU has been to provide access to quality education for all qualified students, and the cuts in state support make it impossible to honor that mission, therefore be it
- Resolved that the SJSU Academic Senate urge the Board of Trustees, the CSU Chancellor and his staff, and the SJSU president and his staff to be strong advocates for increased CSU funding to the legislature, Governor Schwarzenegger, and the people of California.
- Resolved that the SJSU Academic Senate recommend that the Board of Trustees and the Chancellor advocate for the CSU to the citizens of California by sending a letter on the implications of the current budget crisis on the CSU and California's future economy to all CSU students and their families and suggest that they write to their legislators and the Governor, and be it further
- Resolved that the SJSU Academic Senate recommend that the SJSU President should send a letter on the implications of the current budget crisis on the CSU and California's future economy to all current SJSU students and their families and suggest that they write to their legislators and the Governor, and be it further
- Resolved that the SJSU Academic Senate recommend that SJSU President's staff host workshops to educate its faculty, staff, and administrators in the current and historical funding of the CSU to allow them to better advocate for the CSU's interests amongst the citizens of California, and be it further
- Resolved that copies of this resolution be sent to Governor Schwarzenegger, the Chancellor's Office, and the Board of Trustees.

Rationale

The SJSU Academic Senate is strongly opposed to the percentage reduction in the California General fund allotted to the CSU and urges the California legislature and Governor Schwarzenegger to increase the percentage of the General fund allotted to the CSU. The SJSU Academic Senate stand by the CSU's mission of access to quality education and believes that state support to the CSU system should allow for enrollment of all qualified students as originally defined in the California Master Plan.

Approved: 11-23-09

Vote: 14-0-0

Present: Rob Montross, Megan Baker, Steve Branz (non-voting), Karin Brown, Bill Campsey, Victor Culatta, Caroline Fee, Stacy Gleixner, Mo Han, Richard Kelley, James Lee, Elizabeth McGee, Terry Pollack, Wiggys Siversten, Eloise Stiglitz

Absent: Eric Armendariz, Lizzie Orr, Marian Sofish