



**San José State**  
UNIVERSITY

A campus of The California State University

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**SS-S03-3**

At its meeting of April 21, 2003, the Academic Senate passed the following Sense of the Senate Resolution presented by Stephen Branz for the University Library Board.

**SENSE OF THE SENATE RESOLUTION  
SJSU LIBRARY BUDGET STUDY REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

Background: For over two years the University Library Board, in consultation with the Dean and Associate Dean, have been studying the inability of the Library to adequately meet the learning and research needs of faculty and students. A careful analysis of funding patterns at SJSU and relative to appropriate comparison universities<sup>1</sup> reveals a situation so serious as to command attention and action not only of the Senate but also of all SJSU faculty and administrators committed to research and student learning.

At its February 3, 2003, meeting, the ULB approved the attached report for forwarding to the Senate and requested the ULB Chair to work with Senate leadership in developing an appropriate campus-wide consensus.

The ULB recognizes the serious nature of the current budget crisis in the State of California and understands that a short-term solution is not practical or possible. Nonetheless, this resolution is presented to establish a plan for a long-term solution to a long-term systemic problem.

Whereas, the library serves as an equalizer of student opportunity by providing equity in access to information resources and technologies across all disciplines and degree programs; and

Whereas, inadequate funding of acquisitions creates permanent holes in the collection that cannot be filled in by later budget augmentations, thereby limiting the learning and research resources of both current and future generations of students and scholars; and

Whereas, the CSU Senate has documented that CSU libraries were disproportionately cut in acquisition dollars and staffing when CSU budget cuts were made in the early 1990s, and there has not been a restoration of funding for acquisitions or staffing since then<sup>2</sup>; and

- Whereas, while SJSU has recovered from the budget loss of the early 1990s (by 2001/02 the University budget was 76% higher than in 1990/91), its library has not recovered (the library budget at 2001/02 was only 7% higher than its 1990/91 level); and
- Whereas, the growth in research, graduate programs and number of faculty has been significant since 1990, thus, creating a greater need for library services and resources; and
- Whereas, the inflation rate on scholarly materials continues to rise at an annual average of 8% for journals and 5% for books<sup>3</sup> thus, further reducing buying power; now, therefore, be it, and
- Resolved, that the Academic Senate receive the “Library Budget Study Report and Recommendations” as submitted by the University Library Board and endorse the concerns raised therein; be it further
- Resolved, that the President be encouraged to establish as a high priority, in consultation with the Senate, the Library, and the administration, allocation of funding commensurate with library funding levels at comparable universities<sup>1</sup>; be it further
- Resolved, that the President and the Budget Advisory Committee be encouraged to make funding for library resources a high priority as they progress through the budget priorities process; be it further
- Resolved, that upon completion of the capital campaign for the new library, the SJSU Administration, VP for Advancement and the University Library Dean be encouraged to pursue building library endowments for collection and technologies; and let it be finally
- Resolved, that the University Library Board bring detailed reports to the Academic Senate annually on progress being made on issues including funding, acquisitions, services and staffing.

Footnotes:

1. Three groups of comparison universities were chosen.
  - a. Nine state-funded urban universities with similar enrollments (>10,000 FTES) and research, and with a small number of doctoral programs:
    - University of Central Florida
    - Indiana University-Purdue at Indianapolis
    - University of New Orleans
    - University of North Carolina at Greensboro
    - University of Nevada, Las Vegas
    - Cleveland State University
    - Portland State University
    - Middle Tennessee State University
    - George Mason University

- b. 14 Public Institutions Used by the California Post Secondary Education (CPEC) as Comparison Group for the CSU
- Arizona State University, Tempe
  - Cleveland State University, Cleveland
  - George Mason University (Virginia)
  - Georgia State University
  - Illinois State University, Normal
  - North Carolina State University
  - Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, Newark
  - State University of New York, Albany
  - University of Colorado, Denver
  - University of Connecticut, Storrs
  - University of Nevada, Reno
  - University of Texas, Arlington
  - University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
  - Wayne State University, Detroit
- c. Six large CSU campuses (enrollments >17,000 FTES):
- CSU, Fullerton
  - CSU, Long Beach
  - CSU, Northridge
  - CSU, Sacramento
  - CSU, San Diego
  - CSU, San Francisco

2. Priorities for Strategic Budget Planning (May 2002)

<http://www.calstate.edu/acadsen/actions/2001-2002/2573.doc>

3. California Dept. of Finance Annual Price Letters

[current year] <http://www.dof.ca.gov/html/budlettr/BLO2-24.doc>

[earlier years] <http://www.dof.ca.gov/html/budlettr/budlets.htm>

ULB Vote (4/7/03): 12-0-0

Present: Stephen Branz, Patricia Breivik, Ji-Mei Chang, Michael Gorman, Allison Heisch, Paul Kauppila, Arvinder Loomba, Annette Nellen, Bernice Redfern, Shirley Reekie, Blanche Woolls, Diana Wu

Absent: David Parent, Andrew Wood