



San José State
UNIVERSITY

A campus of The California State University

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SS-S03-7

At its meeting of May 19, 2003, the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate passed the following Sense of the Senate Resolution presented by Annette Nellen.

**SENSE OF THE SENATE RESOLUTION
ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE NEW DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. LIBRARY**

- WHEREAS, In early 1997, SJSU President Robert L. Caret and San Jose Mayor Susan Hammer announced a plan to create and fund a library to be shared by the city and the university; and
- WHEREAS, A mix of responses occurred on campus with excitement over the uniqueness, scope and potential of the project in some quarters and with skepticism as to the feasibility and rationale for such a big project involving precious resources of the university; and
- WHEREAS, The SJSU Academic Senate exercised its appropriate role to ensure that excitement over this bold project did not overshadow the university's responsibility to students' learning needs; and
- WHEREAS, It was a proud year for the Academic Senate as it exercised due diligence to ensure the diversity of voices were heard, and hard questions were asked and answered in order that an informed vote could occur in the Senate; and
- WHEREAS, In December 1998 the Academic Senate passed a recommendation for a new Library Policy to provide safeguards for the operation of a joint library; and
- WHEREAS, That the Academic Senate, respecting the history of SJSU, selected October 20, 2000 as the day for the groundbreaking ceremony – a date 130 years after the groundbreaking of the State Normal School (predecessor to SJSU) at the Washington Square site donated by the City of San Jose; and
- WHEREAS, The Academic Senate, through the University Library Board—created when the joint library project was endorsed—has helped the library to address operational and budget issues pertinent to the new library and will continue to do so after the new library opens; and
- WHEREAS, The new library will celebrate its grand opening on August 16, 2003; therefore be it
- RESOLVED, That the SJSU Academic Senate congratulate and extend sincere thanks to all persons and organizations involved in creating the vision, reality and structure of the new Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library, a library like no other, a great symbol of Silicon Valley innovation and a place of extraordinary learning opportunities for all citizens; and be it further
- RESOLVED, That the SJSU Academic Senate continue its responsibility to ensure that the library appropriately serves the needs of this and future generations of students and faculty and helps the campus pursue the opportunities created by this collaborative undertaking to serve the broad SJSU community that will use this library in the years to come.