



San José State
UNIVERSITY

A campus of The California State University

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SS-S07-1

At its meeting of January 29, 2007, the Academic Senate passed the following Sense of the Senate Resolution presented by Senator Thames for the Executive Committee.

SENSE OF THE SENATE RESOLUTION

Access to Electronic and Information Technology for Persons with Disabilities

- Whereas San José State University is committed to academic excellence, supporting student success, and fostering inclusive excellence, and
- Whereas San José State University is ethically and legally bound to provide support and accommodations for persons with disabilities such that they may achieve academic success; therefore be it
- Resolved that the Academic Senate formally recognize the issue of accessibility of information resources and services as a human rights issue for all students, faculty, staff and the general public, regardless of ability, and further be it
- Resolved that the Academic Senate support the development of policies and practices that facilitate access to information resources and technology, and be it further
- Resolved that the Academic Senate recognize that faculty teaching students with disabilities must be provided with the timely information, technology, training, resources (including workload adjustments and the available technology, resources, and related strategies), to enhance access for students with disabilities to course/learning materials.

Rationale

It is the policy of the California State University (CSU) to make information technology resources and services accessible to all CSU students, faculty, staff and the general public regardless of disability (January 2005 Executive Order 926, the CSU Board of Trustees Policy on Disability Support and Accommodations, www.calstate.edu/EO/EO-926.html ,).

Access to information technology resources and services for all members of the San José State University community regardless of ability is premised on federal and state laws including but not limited to Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act; the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990; Section 255 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996; and California

Government Code 11135 of 2003 which applies Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act as amended in 1998 to the CSU.

The particular events that prompted the current resolution are two-fold: First, the Academic Senate of the California State University (ASCSU) urges all campuses to ". . . assess fully the extent to which barriers to disabled persons are created by the use of technology, and where such barriers exist, develop comprehensive policies and take the necessary actions to remove such barriers, providing disabled students with the access and information required to promote the success of their academic endeavors; . . ." (AS-2700-05/FA).

Second, Coded Memorandum AA-2006-41, Access to Electronic and Information Technology for Persons with Disabilities requires that all CSU campuses implement a three year plan addressing web accessibility, instructional materials accessibility and information technology procurement such that all persons, regardless of disability, have access to electronic and information technology.

Aspects of Coded Memorandum AA-2006-41 will require Senate policy development particularly in the area of instructional materials. This resolution is intended to show broad support for the concept of accessibility to all electronic and information technology for persons with disabilities, and direct faculty attention both to the spirit and the letter of law and policy that directs the campus in this regard.

Approved:	December 4, 2006
Vote:	12-0-0
Present:	Van Selst, Veregge, David, Kassing, Hebert, Bros, Thames, Sigler, Lee, Phillips, Najjar, Meldal, McClory, Lessow-Hurley
Absent:	Gutierrez
Financial Impact:	Uncertain