

SS-S97-5

At its meeting of April 21, 1997, the Academic Senate approved the following Sense-of-the-Senate Resolution presented by Senator Canziani for the Senate Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Priorities.

**SENSE OF THE SENATE RESOLUTION
EXPRESSING ITS SENTIMENTS
WITH REGARD TO THE REPORT
OF THE REDESIGN TASK FORCE**

- Whereas, Opinions have been solicited freely from all senators in two iterations of a Delphi survey; and
- Whereas, The Redesign Task Force (RTF) was asked to complete a very difficult task in a brief time span; and
- Whereas, The sentiment most prevalent in the responses of Senators to the Delphi study was that the Redesign Task Force did not achieve consensus involving the entire SJSU community; and
- Whereas, The Redesign Task Force was perceived by a number of respondents as being obliged to make design decisions in the absence of critical information, e.g., of the Steering Committee or the Cornerstones project; and
- Whereas, There was concern among respondents about a lack of mission-driven criteria behind the RTF report; and
- Whereas, Respondents noted the absence of an all-University perspective driving the efforts of the RTF committee, e.g., ignoring the Colleges of Business, Engineering, Education; programs within departments (e.g. American Studies, Religious Studies); programs such as Intercollegiate Athletics; and divisions such as Student Services and Continuing Education; and
- Whereas, The respondent comments suggest that the issuance of two competing models calls into question the integrity of the processes used by the Redesign Task Force; and
- Whereas, Responses to the Delphi study primarily indicated strong sentiments against the RTF report; and
- Whereas, The RTF report did not provide any clear method for assessing or evaluating the impact to the University of suggested redesign changes, thus rendering it operationally unactionable; now be it therefore
- Resolved: That the members of the Redesign Task Force be thanked for their time and energy in the preparation of their report; and be it further
- Resolved: That the Senate concludes that the structural recommendations in the Report of the Redesign Task Force should not be implemented unless conversations among the concerned academic units demonstrate the desirability of any particular change. These conversations should be directed by the Provost, as per the recommendation of the Steering Committee on page 18 of its Final Report; and be it further

Resolved: That any action concerned with University redesign be informed by the many, particular comments of the respondents to the Delphi Study*, the collected correspondence from the college and department committees involved in this task; the correspondence and testimony taken by the Redesign Task Force, the Academic Priorities Steering Committee and by the Office of the Provost; and by the sentiments contained in this resolution.

*The full texts of these responses will be made available in the Academic Senate Office