

Resolution:
Flexible, Forward-Looking Enrollment Planning
for
Individual CSU Campuses

Whereas demand for enrollment in the CSU is projected to increase by 57,000 students over the next five years; and

Whereas the CSU is reportedly planning to reduce student enrollment by 40,000 in the next two years; and

Whereas the Academic Senate of the CSU in Resolution **AS-2868-08/FGA/APEP**, “**Systemwide Impaction, Enrollment Management and the 2009-2010 Budget Environment**,” called in particular for “*authentic access*, meaning that eligible students be admitted to CSU campuses that have the resources to provide the quality programs and facilities to which students are entitled”; and

Whereas the Academic Senate of the CSU in Resolution **AS-2920-09/FGA (Rev)**, “**Dealing With the Impact of Funding Shortfalls on the Winter/Spring Admissions of Transfer Students**” expressed concern regarding the strategy of curtailing enrollment of transfer students in Spring 2010, a direct outcome of the CSU decision to cut back enrollment targets thus disproportionately impacting transfer students and delaying their graduation from a CSU with the potential that many of these students may never transfer and thus never graduate from the CSU; and

Whereas the State of California is unlikely to fund the CSU in the years to come at the levels that were considered customary in the past to provide for *authentic access* and to ensure timely graduation for transfer and all students at levels comparable to the past; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Faculty Senate at California State University, Northridge, urge the CSU Board of Trustees and the CSU Chancellor's Office to work together with the Academic Senate of the CSU to consider all alternatives to the planned reduction in enrollment, including the possibility that individual campuses in the CSU might choose differing enrollment strategies based on the characteristics of the specific campus; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Faculty Senate at California State University, Northridge, urge the CSU Board of Trustees and the CSU Chancellor's Office to develop budget plans for the CSU that address the need for enrollment growth to meet the educational needs of California's population; and be it finally

RESOLVED: That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Academic Senate of the CSU, the Chancellor's Office, and the Board of Trustees.

Rationale: For much of its history, the CSU has engaged in budget and enrollment planning based on backward glances: future targets have been derived from past practices. A more effective process would have the CSU look ahead, to a future in which state support for higher education is likely to continue shrinking. Other states with comparable public university systems may offer instructive examples as they, too, juggle budgets, fees, enrollments, and aid. The CSU should consider ways to generate revenue that does not come to us at the expense of California students, such as encouraging enrollment in the CSU by out-of-state students; advocating for the approval to offer applied advanced degrees in the CSU; and growing extension and online course offerings. Balancing the CSU budget by admitting only those students funded by the Legislature or the Governor is a bad gamble and poor policy. So, too, is limiting access to the CSU. Allowing individual CSU campuses the flexibility to enroll additional students will help the CSU meet the rising demand for educated citizens and will extend the promise of a better future to all of us.