Resolutions Summary

One purpose of this summary is to provide Academic Senate CSU senators, campus senate chairs, and CSU colleagues with a comprehensive list of Academic Senate CSU resolutions acted upon at the last Academic Senate CSU plenary meeting. These resolutions will be listed by: Resolution Number; Sponsoring Committee(s); Resolution Title; Action Status followed by brief summaries written by the sponsoring committee chair(s). Full copies of each resolution may be accessed by clicking on the Resolution Title.

In addition, it is important to note that a comprehensive list of Academic Senate CSU resolutions introduced in First Reading at the last Academic Senate CSU plenary meeting is provided for your perusal; please communicate your comments and suggestions on these First Reading items to the sponsoring committee chair(s) for their consideration as follows:

Academic Affairs Committee (AA): James Postma; jpostma@csuchico.edu
Academic Preparation & Educational Programs (APEP): Bob Buckley; buckley@csus.edu
Faculty Affairs Committee (FA): Kevin Baaske; kbaaske@calstatela.edu
Fiscal & Governmental Affairs (FGA): Buckley B. Barrett; bbarrett@csusb.edu

This is the fourth Resolutions Summary for the Academic Year 2009-2010. We hope you find the Resolutions Summaries helpful.

Sincerely,

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Editors and Members-At-Large, Academic Senate CSU Executive Committee

Resolutions Approved During the March, 2010 Plenary

AS-2935-10 FA (Rev) (First Reading/Waiver)
A Call for Board of Trustees Action on Faculty Trustee Appointment
Approved

The resolution expresses alarm at the continued lack of faculty representation on the Board of Trustees and declares that the lack of representation undercuts the legitimacy of Board action, especially in terms of academic matters. The resolution calls upon the Board to pass a resolution calling upon the Governor to appoint a faculty trustee.

AS-2936-10/FA (Rev) (Second Reading)
Private Donors’ Respect for Academic Freedom
Approved Without Dissent

The resolution acknowledges the need for CSU institutions to generate external funds, but notes recent efforts by some donors to influence curriculum and the selection of instructional faculty. The resolution calls upon the Chancellor's Office and campus administrations to craft disclaimers to inform donors and university personnel with whom they deal that donors’ financial support of the academic enterprise does not imply a right to inject personal or political beliefs to influence the academic content delivered.
AS-2937-10/AA (Rev) (Second Reading)
Opposition to AB 440, as amended (July 4, 2009) Beall. California Community Colleges: Student Transfer
Approved

An ideal “transfer degree” from a community college would prepare a student for transfer to the CSU or UC by directing students to take appropriate lower-division, transferable general education courses (such as those defined by IGETC of the CSU GE Breadth packages) and major preparation courses. The recent amendment to AB 440 to require 18 (semester) units of “coursework in the major or an area of emphasis” does not encourage efficient preparation for transfer.

AS-2938-10/AA (Rev) (Second Reading)
Openness of the Accountability Process in the Graduate Professional Business Programs
Approved

The Executive Order (EO-1042) that authorized the additional fee for Graduate Professional Business Programs required accountability reports. This resolution calls for the Senate to be part of this accountability process, specifically by having appointees on the committee that reviews these reports systemwide and on each campus and by making the reports available on the web.

AS-2939-10/AA (Rev) (Second Reading)
Use and Implementation of the Collegiate Learning Assessment (CLA)
Approved Without Dissent

A systemwide taskforce was convened to offer advice on the use of the CLA exam in the CSU. This resolution calls for the System to heed the advice of this group, specifically by allowing campuses to determine the appropriate timing of the exam (subject to a minimum of every third year). The resolution further calls for a taskforce to suggest improvements for the test administration and an evaluation of the costs associated with the Assessment.

AS-2940-10/AA (Rev) (Second Reading)
Proposed Repeal of Title 5 Section 40503 Relative to Bachelor of Vocational Education Degrees
Approved Unanimously

This resolution expresses support for an item expected on the March Board of Trustees agenda that repeals the Bachelor of Vocational Education degree from the University’s offerings. (No campus in the CSU currently offers this degree.)

AS-2943-10/AA (First Reading Waiver)
Support for Proposed Title 5 Revision: Assignment of Priority Student Housing for Foster Youth
Approved Unanimously

This resolution (passed with a waiver) supports the Board of Trustees proposal to implement AB 1393 (Skinner) which has become Section 90001.5 of the California Education Code. It provides for housing priority to current and former foster youth on campuses that maintain student housing.

AS-2946-10/FGA (First Reading Waiver)
Commendation for President Emeritus Donald R. Gerth and His Book The People’s University: A History of the California State University.
Approved Without Dissent

As the CSU celebrates its 50th anniversary as a system, President Gerth’s comprehensive tome can remind us of the system’s fundamental mission and priorities that California must preserve as we move through difficult times. To wit, the book points to the principles of accessibility, affordability and quality embodied in California’s Master Plan for Higher Education. The book also underscores the importance of shared governance to the university’s mission. The resolution speaks to these matters and expresses our appreciation to President Gerth for his authorship and his other contributions over a long career.
Resolutions in First Reading

Please note that the following items were introduced at the March 10-12, 2010 meeting and will be acted upon during the May 6-7, 2010 meeting of the Academic Senate CSU. Campus comments and suggestions are very much encouraged. Please send any questions/comments directly to the chair of the committee that has proposed these resolutions at the e-mail address listed above. You may access full text of the First Reading Item Packet at: http://www.calstate.edu/AcadSen/documents/03-09_1stReadingItem_packet.pdf

AS-2942-10/AA (First Reading)
Use of College Level Examination Program (CLEP) Tests to Meet General Education (GE) Requirements.

CLEP exams serve to validate student learning by assigning course credit for knowledge that may have been obtained by means other than a traditional course. When this resolution is presented in May, it will be accompanied by a list of CLEP exams that have been evaluated for GE course credit in appropriate areas, similar to the Advanced Placement exams and the International Baccalaureate program. This will allow the CSU and community colleges to incorporate such results into transfer packages, such as GE Breadth and IGETC. (Campuses will continue to accept CLEP exams for course credit outside of GE at their discretion, as is currently practiced.)

AS-2944-10/EX (First Reading)
Academic Senate of the CSU Calendar of 2010-2011 Meetings

This resolution establishes the Academic Senate CSU Calendar of Meetings for the 2010-2011 Academic Year.

AS-2945-10/FGA (First Reading)
Support for the Governor's Proposed 2010-2011 Higher Education Budget

This item commends Governor Schwarzenegger for his support for the CSU and its students in his January 2010 budget proposal, including $305 million as a first step at restoring funding and an extra $60 m to cover further enrollment growth. We urge the Governor and Legislature to protect the proposed allocations through the 2010-11 budget process and to recognize that the funds would represent a good down payment on recovering from the heavy cuts of recent years.

AS-2947-10/APEP (First Reading)
Consultation on Decisions Regarding Academic Information Technology

As campuses consider ways in which to strategically make reductions in expenditures, plans are likely to include proposals to reduce, eliminate or centralize IT resources, infrastructure or support services currently provided within divisions of Academic Affairs. This resolution calls for consultation with campus senates in the review of such proposals. This review should not merely focus on estimates of potential cost savings, but also assess the impact on curriculum and instruction and ultimately the teaching and learning of students.

AS-2948-10/APEP (First Reading)
Impact of Enrollment Management Decisions on Academic Programs

As campuses attempt to manage down their enrollments, a previous resolution (AS-2925-09) informed campuses of the Chancellor’s mandate that there be a “Presidential Enrollment Management Advisory Group” on each campus. While such a group is expected to provide consultation on the larger, macro-type issues, many campuses have not extended consultation to include the analysis of the micro-level effects that enrollment management, and particularly enrollment limitations, have on specific academic programs. For example, with no transfer student admissions in the spring term, many departments have had to cancel course offerings, which in turn have affected students’ time to degree as well as faculty workload. The need to limit enrollment will continue to be a high priority in 2010-11. The intent of this resolution is to call attention to the need for faculty consultation in the micro-level enrollment management decisions and their effect on student progress to degree and on academic program offerings.
AS-2949-10/APEP (First Reading)
The Early Assessment Program (EAP) and Collaborations to Increase the Academic Readiness of Graduating High School Seniors

This is a companion resolution to AS-2923-09, which recognized and supported Chancellor’s Office efforts to improve the effectiveness of EAP in significantly increasing the percentages of incoming freshmen that are fully prepared to begin college level studies. This resolution supports and commends the more recent collaborative efforts of the three segments (CSU, UC and Community Colleges) to work more effectively with K-12 schools to improve proficiency rates. This effort is being facilitated by the California Diploma Project through Achieve, the non-profit education reform organization.

In supporting this effort, Achieve in collaboration with the CSU convened a group of content experts in English and mathematics to conduct the analysis of the EAP English, Algebra II, and Summative Mathematics assessments. The report containing their findings (An Analysis of the Early Assessment Program (EAP) Assessments for Algebra II, Summative High School Mathematics, and English) is available at http://www.achieve.org/files/ExecSummaryAchieveEAPReportOct2009.pdf

AS-2950-10/APEP (First Reading)
Facilitating Students’ Academic and Career Goals in a Time of Economic Constraints

As campuses attempt to manage down their enrollments, this resolution recommends that policies that impose unit restrictions on students, such as prohibitions from changing majors or adding second majors or minors, should take individual student’s academic and career goals into account and provide students with adequate access to advising and faculty support. Many CSU students that have accumulated units in excess of the 120 unit minimum are among the most academically talented. Without provision for adequate advisement and a student appeal process in place, individual student career and academic choices will be limited. This resolution asks that such limitations be considered carefully and that there be developed, with faculty input, a mechanism for special consideration.

AS-2951-10/EX (Rev) (First Reading Postponed to May Plenary)
Addition of a Second Faculty Trustee to the CSU Board of Trustees

This resolution requests that the CSU Board of Trustees recommend to the Governor and the California State Legislature the addition of a second faculty trustee to the Board.