SECURING INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS OF STUDENTS

WHEREAS: All individuals, including students, possess the traits needed to create intellectual property material; and

WHEREAS: The California State University’s mission includes, “To provide opportunities for individuals to develop intellectually, personally, and professionally;” and

WHEREAS: CSU Campus mission statements call for their universities to acts as bases for discovery through research and creative activities; and

WHEREAS: By claiming student’s intellectual property rights, the universities diminish the environment to which the student has no incentive to use the environment as a base for discovery nor does the student have an opportunity to “develop intellectually, personally, and professionally;” and

WHEREAS: Students are not employed or paid by the institution for their research like that of faculty or other employees, but rather pay the institution, and intellectual property is not considered work for hire; and

WHEREAS: Students face challenges when presenting their works/work to an outside entity either for redistribution or for non-profit purposes; and

WHEREAS: Every student in the CSU pays to be a member of the campus community through the payment of State University Fees; and

WHEREAS: Students only have cursory mention in the individual campus intellectual properties, and were largely ignored with a few exceptions

WHEREAS: Different campus used the same justifications and treated students differently, and

WHEREAS: CSSA believes it is in the best interests of the students and the CSU to remedy this unequal treatment, and

WHEREAS: Allowing CSU students to maintain ownership of their intellectual property will allow students to demonstrate their best effort, and showcase their works bringing positive exposure to the CSU; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED: That all California State University Students retain all intellectual property rights of original work produced by them within the California State University; and be it further
RESOLVED: That CSSA requests a re-examination of the treatment of students within the CSU with regards to intellectual property, and

RESOLVED: That the CSSA requests the Board of Trustees to create a system wide student intellectual property policy that reflects these values.

Signed: Michael Bezanson
    Samuel Aborne