August 31, 2006

TO: Dr. Gary Reichard, Executive Vice Chancellor & Chief Academic Officer

FROM: Barbara Butler, Chair, CSU Council of Library Directors

RE: Library Support Needs for the Independent Doctorate Program

The CSU Council of Library Directors would like to bring to your attention our concern regarding the need for library resources and services to support the CSU independent Doctor of Education degree. Senate Bill NO 724 stipulates that the CSU shall provide any startup funding from within existing budgets for academic programs support. Since doctoral programs by their nature require intensive research, availability of adequate information resources and supporting services are essential for a successful and credible program.

Planning is underway in the seven campus libraries for institutions expected to implement the independent doctorate in AY 2006-2007. Our calculations show that existing budgets are inadequate to provide a basic core. The attached document provides a summary of costs, conservatively projected, for one cohort at start-up, as a sample only.

Program planning should address the principle of equal access to resources and services for all EdD program participants regardless of location. We realize that the capacity level will vary among campuses and this factor should be closely scrutinized to ensure that program quality is not uneven. Certain resources may be shared electronically with system-wide procurement but those costs are significant. Since not all research materials would qualify, local collections still need attention and access to other specialized materials carries a document delivery cost at the local level. Further, instruction and assistance for dissertation research has a significant staffing implication.

We want the CSU libraries to be a successful partner in this endeavor. Your consideration of our concerns is most appreciated and we would welcome the opportunity to discuss them further with you and/or other Chancellor's Office staff.

Attachment: Projected Cost of Library Support for Independent EdD Programs