

**ACADEMIC SENATE
OF
THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY**

AS-2829-08/AA (Rev)
January 17-18, 2008

Support of the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Degree in the CSU

- RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of the California State University (CSU) acknowledge the Chancellor and the Board of Trustees for jointly developing a legislative proposal that would seek authorization for the CSU to offer an independent Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP); and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate CSU affirm that DNP Programs offered by the CSU must be developed and approved by faculty through regular academic program review and approval processes (including individual campus academic senates) at all individual campuses offering the DNP degree; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That all proposed DNP Programs be developed in accordance with all appropriate national standards for such applied doctoral programs; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate CSU urge the CSU to secure funding sufficient to sustain and implement DNP Programs; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate CSU commend the CSU's leadership in recognizing the need to address the serious shortage of nursing faculty in California through the development of independent DNP Programs.

RATIONALE: The shortage of nurses in California has been well documented. According to published reports, a shortage of nursing faculty exists and will continue to be significant problem. Preparation of nursing faculty with a clinical practice doctoral degree will increase the number of faculty available to teach in existing California nursing practice program. Additionally, the clinical practice doctorate will also serve as the terminal degree for the increased numbers of advanced practice nurses needed to provide services to California citizens. Existing nursing doctoral programs in California are not able to meet the need for expansion of a nursing education workforce. A recent study conducted by a CSU consultant revealed that there is both documented need and interest among many CSU nursing programs for the development of independent doctoral programs, in particular the DNP. An advisory board will be created to guide the development of standards and policies for the DNP. The advisory board will be composed of nursing faculty, administrators, senators, and directors.

Approved Unanimously – March 6-7, 2008