

**ACADEMIC SENATE
OF
THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY**

AS-2844-08/AA (Rev)

March 6-7, 2008

**Academic Senate of the California State University (CSU) Support of the
*Troops to College Initiative***

- RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate CSU commend Chancellor Reed for his strong leadership on behalf of the CSU in support of the *Troops to College Initiative* proposed by Governor Schwarzenegger in May, 2006; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate CSU acknowledge the efforts of the Office of the Chancellor staff and individual campus staff involved in the planning and development of CSU responses to the *Troops to College Initiative*; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate CSU encourage the continued development of educational programs and resources (including admission and financial aid resources) in support of the following groups: (1) members of the active duty military; (2) veterans; (3) disabled and wounded veterans; and (4) military spouses; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate CSU urge the provision of student support services adequate and appropriate to the needs and requirements of this student group; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate CSU urge continued and expanded involvement of faculty members in the development, implementation, and evaluation of diverse educational programs and articulation review and approval for all groups served in the *Troops to College Initiative*; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate CSU encourage continued collaboration on the *Troops to College Initiative* in partnership with the University of California, California Community Colleges, California Governor's Office, California Departments of Veterans' Affairs, Education, Labor and Workforce Development, and the United States Armed Services; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate CSU urge the Chancellor's office to include provisions for appropriate funding to ensure that the CSU can provide all the necessary services to support these students in the development of its annual budget proposal to the state; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate CSU send copies of this resolution to the CSU Board of Trustees, Chancellor, campus presidents and provosts, and campus senate chairs.

RATIONALE: The Troops to College Initiative was proposed by Governor Schwarzenegger in March, 2006 to connect California public higher education institutions with active duty military personnel, military spouses, and veterans. Reports indicate that California leads the United States in the number of veterans (2.2 million) and over 12% of all active duty military personnel (170,000) who would benefit from expanded educational opportunities in the California public college and university system. An oversight committee was created to oversee the development, implementation, and evaluation of educational programs, including on-campus as well as distance learning programs. Additionally, Governor Schwarzenegger has signed

AB950, Public Postsecondary Education: Student Residency Requirements: Active Duty Military in October, 2007. This legislation waives non-resident tuition for active duty military and their dependents as well as for veterans with one or more years of active duty service and provides California state benefits for these groups of potential students. At this time, all 23 California State University campuses have established teams to support campus veterans. Additionally, the CSU has developed a systemwide military brochure, and is exploring the evaluation of military training for academic credit, reviewing academic programs for inclusion in the military transition assistance program, exploring university services for wounded veterans, and pilot testing distance learning programs for active duty military personnel.

Approved – May 8-9, 2008