

**ACADEMIC SENATE
OF
THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY**

AS-2908-09/ APEP
September 10-11, 2009

**Mitigation of the Impact of Systemwide Enrollment Management Policies on
Graduate and Post baccalaureate Credential Programs**

- RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of the California State University (ASCSU) both acknowledge and support the Chancellor's efforts to manage enrollment in order to align, more appropriately, the numbers of students enrolled at campuses in the CSU with the available resources necessary to ensure the quality of education needed to serve these students; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the ASCSU express its concern to the Chancellor that the establishment of November 30, 2009 as the closure date for "priority" admissions for graduate applications will have an adverse impact on graduate and post baccalaureate credential programs; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the ASCSU encourage the Chancellor to consider extending the "priority" admission deadline on a campus-specific, case-by-case basis; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the ASCSU encourage campus senates to establish mechanisms whereby programs can request, through campus Academic Affairs procedures, a variance from the Chancellor of the admissions deadline for graduate and post baccalaureate credential programs; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the ASCSU encourage campus senates to consider ways to mitigate the impact of enrollment management policies on graduate and post baccalaureate credential programs, including the possibility of programs requesting a variance of the deadline from the Chancellor when deemed appropriate in order to maintain program viability and quality.

RATIONALE Application deadlines for graduate and post baccalaureate credential programs in the California State University have historically been mid-spring for the following academic year. Applicants for graduate and post baccalaureate credential programs have historically made their decisions about attending graduate school later than applicants to undergraduate programs. Consequently, the hastily announced and little publicized establishment by the Chancellor of November 30, 2009 as the closure of "priority" admission of graduate students for the Fall 2010 term has the potential to shrink graduate and post baccalaureate credential enrollments to a much greater degree than undergraduate enrollments. In addition, the nature of graduate admission decisions is such that potential graduate students would be evaluated for admission at the beginning of their senior year, potentially prior to the ability to conduct an adequate assessment of their promise as advanced degree candidates, especially for transfer students. Furthermore, many graduate programs rely on balanced fall and spring enrollments in order to allow for more systematic and responsive offering of classes, and to sustain cohort models. Such reductions could threaten the viability of existing programs that currently have adequate and sustainable enrollments.

For campuses to make the case for an exemption to the prescribed deadlines, each campus must also ensure that the reduced enrollment targets established for 2010-11 will not be exceeded. Such a case would allow campuses to be more strategic in the decisions that will need to be made as enrollments decline.

Approved Unanimously – September 10-11, 2009