October 24, 2012

Dr. Diana Guerin, Chair
Academic Senate, CSU
The California State University
401 Golden Shore
Long Beach, CA 90802-4210

Dear Dr. Guerin:

**RE: September 13-14, 2012, Senate Resolutions**

Thank you for forwarding the packet of resolutions adopted by the Academic Senate of the California State University at its September 13-14, 2012, meeting. We are pleased to provide the responses below:

1) **AS-3090-12/EX: Support of Proposition 30 on the November 2012 Ballot: Temporary Taxes to Fund Education. Guaranteed Local Public Safety Funding.**

   Concerted systemwide support of Proposition 30 is critical to avoid an additional $250 million trigger cut to the CSU. We appreciate the Senate’s support of Proposition 30 and commendation of the California State Student Association’s early efforts to educate and mobilize CSU students and others in support of this important proposition.

2) **AS-3093-12/FGA: Opposition to Proposition 32 Regarding Political Contributions by Payroll Deductions**

   We would like to thank the Senate for this resolution, which has been widely disseminated. The CSU recognizes the Senate’s strong opposition to Proposition 32 regarding political contributions by payroll deductions.
3) **AS-3094-12/FGA: Budget Reduction Strategies – Contingency Plan for $250 Million Trigger Budget Cut to the California State University (CSU)**

The CSU appreciates the ASCSU’s recognition that the Board of Trustees must explore all possible budget reduction strategies to contend with the possibility of a $250 million budget cut in November. Your resolution (AS-3094-12) has been carefully reviewed and considered. There are several points on which we agree. The one-time transfer of funds from extended education is in process and it is important to note that this has been conducted in concert with campus administrators. In terms of administrative efficiencies, we are continuing with systemwide strategies such as shared services but any decision to reduce or eliminate assigned/release time will be a campus-level decision.

If Proposition 30 fails in November, we will move forward with the increase on nonresident and resident tuition as proposed by the Board of Trustees in September. Despite the result of the vote (passes or fails) the BOT will consider implementing the graduation incentive fee, course repeat fee, and third-tier tuition. There have been some minor modifications to the third-tier and graduation incentive language, which will provide greater flexibility to students.

Cuts to salary and furloughs are not currently being considered but with so many unknowns, we are not able to promise that these items will not return for consideration. Increasing employee contributions to healthcare is still being examined but is an issue that requires contract negotiation, which is not a swift process. There would be a great deal of time for input.

The next couple of weeks will be pivotal in terms of determining how we proceed. We look forward to the passage of Proposition 30, which will begin to stabilize the CSU budget.

Sincerely,

Ronald E. Vogel
Associate Vice Chancellor

c: Dr. Charles B. Reed, Chancellor
Dr. Ephraim P. Smith, Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Academic Officer
Dr. Benjamin F. Quillian, Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer
Mr. Garrett P. Ashley, Vice Chancellor, University Relations and Advancement
Ms. Gail E. Brooks, Vice Chancellor, Human Resources