July 21, 2003

To: Professor Robert Cherny  
Chair, Academic Senate CSU

From: David S. Spence  
Executive Vice Chancellor

Subject: Response to Academic Senate Resolution

Following is the response of the Office of the Chancellor to the resolutions approved at the May 8-9, 2003 meeting of the Academic Senate and addressed to the Chancellor.

AS-2602-03/FGA Establishment of a Public Service Award for CSU Graduates Serving as State Capitol Staff

The Academic Senate is to be commended for instituting this annual award to CSU graduates serving in staff positions in the state capitol. Many of our graduates occupy staff positions in legislative offices, with legislative committees, and in administrative offices in Sacramento. Acknowledging the public service of all these individuals through this award will be greatly appreciated by them personally and will also further highlight the value of the CSU to the citizens of the state.

AS-2603-03/AA Systemwide Maximum Physical Capacity Enrollment Ceiling

We appreciate the support of the Academic Senate for limited increases in individual campus enrollment ceilings pursued through the normal campus master plan revision process. The Board of Trustees, at the May 2003 meeting approved a resolution that “authorizes campuses that are at or near the historic system maximum enrollment ceiling of 25,000 academic year full-time equivalent students to prepare campus master plan revisions that exceed the limit for presentation to the Board.”

Academic Affairs will conduct a study of systemwide and campus maximum enrollment policies and practices throughout the United States. We expect this study to be completed by January 2004. Pending the completion of that study, we have not taken a position on the need for a new systemwide enrollment ceiling. We understand the position of the Academic Senate but also understand the arguments for campus autonomy and the negative collateral effect of campus impaction.

We will consult with the Academic Senate on this matter after completion of the study.
AS-2604-03/AA  Adjusting Physical Capacity Enrollment Ceilings for Individual Campuses Through the Master Plan Revision Process

We agree that a campus physical master plan, including the establishment of physical capacity enrollment ceilings, must be driven by and responsive to the goals of the campus academic master plan. Current guidelines and procedures for review and revision of campus master plans do originate at the campus level and do require consideration of all the elements relating to internal academic goals specified in this resolution.

We agree that the recommendation of the campus academic senate should be part of any request to the Board of Trustees for an increase in a campus’s physical capacity enrollment ceiling. We will discuss with the Chancellor, the Executive Council, and the Chair of the Board of Trustees steps that can be taken to insure the inclusion of the campus senate recommendation in the review and approval process.

AS-2606-03/FA  The Report of the CSU Faculty Workload Study Group

Workload is an important factor in the recruitment and retention of a high quality faculty and is a subject for collective bargaining. It is appropriate for the CSU community to review periodically the workload of faculty in comparison to similar institutions in order to maintain competitiveness in attracting and retaining faculty.

AS-2608-03/FA  The Report of the Faculty Flow Committee

The ability to recruit and retain a high quality faculty continues to be a high priority for the CSU. The insights provided by this report should be useful in helping campuses understand the decision-making of candidates who accepted and rejected offers of CSU employment. The CSU is interested in ongoing discussions and collaborations to enhance faculty recruitment and retention.

AS-2609-03/FA  The Report from the California State Auditor (2002-110) on the Common Management System (CMS)

Campus deferral - The Chancellor has informed campuses that were planning to implement a new PeopleSoft application in 2003-04 that they could defer any work on new implementations until 2004-05. Of the 14 campuses with the potential to defer implementation of one or more applications, 9 have indicated the ability to do so and plan to defer work on those implementations.

While The CMS project did not publish a single comprehensive document containing all the elements of needs assessment and “business case”, the record shows several documents and documented meetings which, taken together, constitute the elements of needs assessment, business alternative review and comparing costs to benefits. The CMS project has been developed and implemented with an extensive business plan including significant project milestones.
Cost Effective Implementation - Budget reductions necessary at CSU campuses will be borne equitably by all campus operations including instruction and support. The responsibility for prudent management of university funds continues to reside with the campus presidents.

Identification of CMS Funding - Allocation of campus funding sources is a campus responsibility. Campus presidents continue to distribute allocated funds based upon the needs of the campus. It is not within CSU policy to mandate allocation patterns or expenditure limits by area for campuses.

Adherence to Planning Principles - The Chancellor issued Executive Order 862 on April 18, 2003 requiring campuses and the Chancellor's Office to follow more stringent project development procedures including feasibility studies and project management and oversight. The Chancellor has also directed improvement of training and application of conflict of interest standards across the CSU.

AS-2601-03/AA  Required Use of Electronic Applications for CSU Admission

We appreciate the Academic Senate's support of the recommendation by the Admission Advisory Council to require students to apply electronically beginning October 1, 2004 for the 2005-06 academic year. As a result of this requirement, paper applications will no longer be printed and generally distributed. The California State University recognizes that there will be instances in which a student may not have access to a computer or other extenuating circumstances that may prevent a student from filing an electronic admission application. In these instances, the student may need to file a paper admission application. Therefore, the California State University Chancellor's Office will maintain a printable version of the admission application online that may be downloaded and printed by counselors, students, families, and the general public. In such cases, these paper applications will have the same priority for admission as the electronic admission application. Campuses have the absolute obligation to find a way to assist every student who needs to us a paper application in order to apply for admission to the California State University.

AS-2611-03/AA/TEKR  Support for Integrated Teacher Preparation Programs in the California State University

AS-2611-03 is a timely resolution. The policies and provisions that this resolution proposes call for changes in Title 5 regulations that would accompany and in some instances eliminate the need for proposed legislation, Senate Bill 81 (Alpert, 2003). The resolution also recommends a task force charged with developing a general framework for integrated teacher preparation programs on CSU campuses. It further recommends guidelines and strategies be developed for increased articulation with community colleges, and supports a reasonable timeline for the implementation of resolution provisions.
Recommended CSU Budget Priority for 2003-04

As has been previously communicated to the Academic Senate and CSU constituencies, the CSU is firmly committed to acquiring the appropriate level of funding needed in order to provide the quality of education the citizens of the State of California have come to expect. From the development of the Trustees' Budget through negotiation with the Governor and the Department of Finance and into the Legislative Committee hearings, the CSU has worked in concerted effort with various stakeholders to maximize the financial resources to be made available through the state budget process.

The CSU recognizes the need to preserve the quality of instruction our students receive, and campus presidents have been advised to manage enrollments within targets to insure sustaining the quality and availability of instructional services students need to progress to degree remains the highest priority of the university. The presidents are ultimately accountable for managing enrollments within the financial parameters of their budget allocations and campus-based resources, and they have been advised of steps that can be taken to manage admissions that preserve the spirit of CSU's Master Plan mission and keep enrollment levels within funded targets.

Commendation for Deborah Hennessy

We most certainly concur with and applaud your recognition of the 22 years of outstanding service provided the Academic Senate by Deborah Hennessy. We in Academic Affairs all love and appreciate her as much as you and share your regrets that Debbie will be leaving us. We join with you in wishing Debbie the very best in the future.

Support of SB 302 (Kuehl): An Act to Amend Section 11135 of the Government Code: Relating to Discrimination

We appreciate the Academic Senate's support of SB 302. We recently accepted the May 2003 Academic Technology Advisory Committee recommendation that an ad hoc committee be appointed to develop guidelines for the implementation of the Americans with Disabilities Act within the CSU that ensure that all instructional materials and student services made available through the use of technology are fully accessible to students with disabilities.

The ad hoc committee will include representation from the Academic Senate, CSSA, Services to Students With Disabilities Advisory Committee, the Academic Council, vice presidents for student affairs, and Academic Affairs in the Chancellor's Office. We are in the process of appointing representatives to this ad hoc committee so that it might begin its work during the summer. We expect the ad hoc committee to issue its draft guidelines for consultation in January 2004.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

DSS:ap

c: Charles B. Reed
   Gary A. Hammerstrom
   CSU Presidents