January 17, 2003

To: Professor Jacquelyn Kegley  
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 November 7, 2002 meeting of the Academic Senate and addressed to the Chancellor.

AS-2582-02/AA Modification of Upper-Division Admission Requirements

We appreciate the support of the Academic Senate to amend Title 5, California Code of Regulations to require that a student complete 60 or more transferable semester units (90 quarter units) to establish eligibility for admission as upper-division transfer students effective for students applying for admission to the fall 2005 and subsequent terms. This recommendation of the Admission Advisory Council on which President Donald R. Gerth and Academic Senate representative Dr. Hal Charnofsky serve as chair and vice chair respectively, represents several months of analysis and discussion. As the Academic Senate has noted in its rationale, this amendment will reduce confusion among students and community college counselors. It is also our hope that this amendment will help better prepare students for transfer by encouraging them to complete all lower-division and General Education courses at the community college prior to transfer to the California State University.

AS-2583-02/Floor Amendment to Bylaw 2a

We note the action of the Academic Senate to modify its Bylaws on the nomination and election of officers. Being an internal, organizational function of the body, we have no comment.

AS-2588-02/FAFGA Call for Reconsideration of Trustees’ Proposed Budget

The 2003-04 Support Budget request approved by the CSU Board of Trustees on October 31, 2002 is consistent with budget priorities previously cited in Academic Senate resolutions. The Support Budget called for full marginal cost associated with enrollment growth, for full recognition of the funding commitments identified in Partnership Agreement, sufficient resources to attract and retain highly qualified employees, restoration of the 2002/03
Partnership funding shortfall to address areas of priority need - including the CSU Libraries, and the first year cost to phase in the CSU response to ACR 73 that would begin the process of reducing the student-faculty and student-tenure track faculty ratios. All of these requests were developed within a state economic environment facing approximately $30 billion in structural budget deficits.

The priorities approved by the board include a 4% salary increase for faculty employees in addition to the full-year cost requirements that reflect a 6.14% increase in faculty salaries negotiated for the 2001/02 and 2002/03 fiscal years. The recognition of funding priorities in the budget is consistent with the principles adopted in the Partnership Agreement, which allows funding requests above the general parameters of revenue growth specified through percentage increases in General Fund support and the marginal cost methodology for enrollment growth. The budget fully uses the flexibility allowed under the Partnership Agreement to structure a budget plan for fiscal year 2003/04 that addresses the key priorities of CSU.

The priorities identified by Academic Senate concerning short-term budget priorities and strategic budget planning are issues that will be considered throughout the state budget process. Priorities included in the annual budget submission to the governor and legislature reflect a general consensus of principle funding concerns of all CSU constituency groups, established within the context of the state’s economic and political environment.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

DSS:ap

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