To:        Professor Robert Cherny
Chair, Academic Senate CSU

From:     David Spence
Executive Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs

Subject:  Response to Academic Senate Resolutions

Following is the response of the Office of the Chancellor to the resolutions approved at
the March 11-12, 2004 meeting of the Academic Senate and addressed to the Chancellor.

AS-2639-04/EX  Support for a CSU Sustainability Policy

The CSU has developed a Revised Policy on Energy Conservation, Sustainable Building
Practices and Physical Plant Management. We believe that this policy will continue the
building performance improvements that have been achieved over the past 25 years.
While meeting the needs of our academic programs is the CSU’s first priority, we will
strive in every way we can to ensure energy conservation and sustainability.

AS-2640-04/TEKR  California State University Center of Excellence in the Study
of the Holocaust, Genocide, Human Rights and Tolerance

While the CSU has not taken a formal position on AB 1175, we feel that language
amendments to the bill to require the Center to have a reporting relationship at a specific
CSU campus and to not limit participation to one campus would be in the best interest of
the state. These changes would allow other campuses to participate in the Holocaust and
Genocide Education Center’s work that has, up to this point, been located at CSU Chico
under AB 2003. Removal of the sunset clause of that bill would enable the Center to
continue as long as funding from external sources is available and is certainly in line with
current CSU budget constraints that would have otherwise required that state funds be
used to support the Center.

AS-2641-04/TEKR  Classification of Teacher Credential Candidates for Purposes
of Student Fee Increases

The CSU appreciates and gratefully acknowledges the Senate’s support of State
Superintendent of Public Instruction Jack O’Connell, Chancellor Reed, and the Executive
Council of the CSU Presidents in their united effort to secure a fee accommodation for CSU post-baccalaureate credential students pursuing a teaching credential. Since most students seeking a California teaching credential are required to take as much as a year of additional coursework following completion of their undergraduate degree in order to be certified to teach, the CSU would like to seek a means to continue to make this important career preparation as affordable as possible for these future teachers.

AS-2643-04/FGA   Economic Crisis Undermines the Principles of the Master Plan

We concur with the Academic Senate's concern that California is no longer providing the funds needed to guarantee access and quality to all fully eligible students seeking admission to the California State University. While we believe the Governor's Budget is fair to the California State University given the size of the State's fiscal problems, CSU continues to work with the Governor and Legislature to ensure that the State is aware of the consequences of inadequate fiscal support to students, faculty, and staff. In particular, policy makers need to be aware that CSU's only response to budget reductions is to reduce enrollment and to increase fees. We look forward to partnering with the Academic Senate to inform the public, particularly high school and community college transfer students, of the limitation on CSU's enrollment as a result of budget reductions.

AS-2644-04/FGA   Long-term Undergraduate Student Fee Policy

We appreciate the Academic Senate's recommendation that CSU's State University Fee be increased in a gradual and defined schedule over eight years to a permanent cap of 25 percent of the actual cost of instruction, and its recommendation that an appropriate percentage of new revenue generated by annual resident student fee increases be directed to support CSU's financial aid program. CSU's current goal, however, is work toward the goal of increasing student fees to one-third of the cost of education. One of the policy issues we are currently discussing with the Governor is his recommendation of a policy change to redirect 20 percent instead of 33 percent of new fee revenue to CSU's financial aid program.

DSS:njw

c: Charles B. Reed
   CSU Presidents
   Lorie Roth