

**ACADEMIC SENATE
OF
THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY**

AS-2779-06/FGA (Rev)
November 9, 2006

Library Resource Needs for All Undergraduate and Graduate Programs

- RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of the California State University (CSU) reaffirm its ongoing concern expressed within *The California State University at the Beginning of 21st Century: Meeting the needs of the People of California* Report of 2001 about lagging funds for library resources in support of all programs and disciplines; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate CSU urge the Chancellor and campus presidents to seek increased funding to restore and improve print, electronic and other collections; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate CSU urge the Chancellor and campus presidents to seek increased funding to restore and improve student-librarian ratios consistent with or superior to libraries of CPEC comparison institutions and to address the state and national challenge of improving information competency; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate CSU acknowledge the CSU's recent inclusion of library resource needs within short or long-term annual budget categories and urge a higher priority for these needs; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate CSU urge the Chancellor's Office to collaborate with the Academic Senate CSU to advocate with the Legislature for restoration of the \$350,000 removed by the Governor from the CSU's proposed \$2.5 million line item increase for libraries in the 2007-08 budget, and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate CSU send copies of this resolution to the Chancellor, the Board of Trustees, campus presidents and provosts, the Council of Library Directors, and campus faculty senates.

RATIONALE: The Academic Senate CSU 21st Century report from 2001 outlined various unmet core and support needs at that time and from many years prior as well as the deleterious effects on CSU educational quality in the future of not restoring and augmenting the pertinent resource budgets. Library funding shortfalls received due attention as a component of this report, and the situation has generally deteriorated in the five or more years since. CSU libraries and librarians have experienced greater difficulties in giving quality support to faculty and students from undergraduate and graduate programs across all departments and disciplines. Higher inflation rates for print and online research materials have damaged purchasing power along with static or otherwise insufficient collection funding. From 1972 until 2004, CSU Statistical Abstracts show a 39.5% decline in systemwide and campus expenditures for libraries when adjusted for inflation. In 2002 the NCES Academic Library Survey listed total CSU library expenditures per FTES at an average of \$356, or 42% below the \$619 figure for a group of 14 CPEC

libraries. Again during the 1972-2004 period, overall CSU library staffing decreased 53%. As of 2002 the NCES Academic Library Survey reports that our librarian/professional staff per 1000 FTES stood at 1.36 or 57% lower than at CPEC libraries. Since the 1970's and since our 2001 21st Century Report, the CSU overall has certainly experienced enrollment growth in numbers and percentages that we might represent as almost the 180-degree opposite of the library support declines outlined herein. While publication formats may have evolved considerably over these decades, the need for traditional materials has not disappeared in many disciplines even as efficient-but-expensive newer modes have grown popular in other subject areas. Furthermore, in many ways the rich proliferation of research sources old and new has greatly magnified the dire social need for librarians and colleagues to manage better our information resources and more effectively teach their best critical use.

Approved Unanimously – January 18-19, 2007