

**ACADEMIC SENATE
OF
THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY**

AS-3472-21/EX
March 18-19, 2021

**IN MEMORIAM: DEBORAH HENNESSY, ACADEMIC SENATE CSU
DIRECTOR 1981-2003**

- WHEREAS,** Debbie Hennessy, a former foster youth, graduated from Eastchester High School in Westchester County, NY and took classes at City College of New York; and
- WHEREAS,** Debbie Hennessy drew upon her experiences as a former foster youth to create opportunities for other children in need through philanthropy; and
- WHEREAS,** Debbie Hennessy – in tandem with her work as Director of the Academic Senate Office of the California State University (CSU) – ran local charities like “Send-a-Kid-to-Camp” and provided toys and school supplies to children in Iraq through “Operation Kids”; and
- WHEREAS,** Debbie Hennessy enabled the success of many ASCSU Senators with a gracious welcome and one-on-one review of the ASCSU Bylaws and Constitution; and
- WHEREAS,** Debbie Hennessy could be counted on to give a fair and unbiased opinion on a wide range of subjects – except when it came to the performance of “her” Long Beach Little Leaguers; and
- WHEREAS,** Debbie Hennessy was known as a woman of strength and character in her own right and played a vital part of the Tom and Debbie Hennessy team, a team that promoted education, the libraries, and programs that supplied basic needs to children; and
- WHEREAS,** Debbie Hennessy will always be remembered by readers of her husband’s column in The Press-Telegram in Long Beach as “The Duchess”; and
- WHEREAS,** Debbie Hennessy retired in 2003 after more than 20 years with the CSU; and
- WHEREAS,** Debbie Hennessy, former longtime administrator for the California State University Academic Senate and wife of former Press-Telegram columnist Tom Hennessy, passed away due to complications from COVID-19 on Sunday, January 10, 2021 at the age of 80; be it therefore
- RESOLVED:** That the Academic Senate of the California State University (ASCSU) posthumously honor Debbie Hennessy for her service to the ASCSU; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the ASCSU offer its wishes for a peaceful rest to Debbie Hennessy, as she joins her husband Tom, and leaves memories of a remarkable life together in their footprints.

Approved by Acclamation – March 18-19, 2021