RESOLUTION CALLING FOR ADEQUATE FUNDING OF THE CSU SYSTEM AND IN SUPPORT OF CONTINUING OPTIMAL ACCESS FOR STUDENTS

1. WHEREAS, Every year since the passage of Proposition 13 in June, 1978, the CSU system has had its support and capital outlay budgets cut; and

2. WHEREAS, These cuts were made upon budgets which did not provide for full funding of CSU programs and institutions, based upon approved levels of support; and

3. WHEREAS, For the upcoming academic year a 2.5% cutback, amounting to $26 million, has been called for in the Governor's budget; and

4. WHEREAS, Even deeper budget cutbacks than those proposed in the Governor's budget are being predicted for next year; and

5. WHEREAS, Options under consideration include increasing all student fees, increasing student/faculty ratios, freezing state employee salaries for two years, and other items detrimental to the CSU system; and

6. WHEREAS, The rate of inflation each year has heightened the effects of mandated budget cuts; and

7. WHEREAS, These budget cuts have damaged programs and morale throughout the CSU system; and

8. WHEREAS, The Chancellor's Office and the Board of Trustees were considering increasing student fees anywhere from $44.00 to $89.00, before additional cuts were suggested, in the CSU system for the 1982-1983 academic year; and

9. WHEREAS, Due to new proposed budget cuts these fees may have to be raised even higher; and

10. WHEREAS, The State of California has always prided itself on providing "tuition-free, low-cost" public higher education to as many students as possible; and

11. WHEREAS, The entire state benefits from the education provided by its public universities; and

12. WHEREAS, Any increase in student fees limits access to higher education. One study tends to indicate that for every $100.00 increase in student fees there would be a subsequent decline in student enrollments of 2.5% (a loss of 7,500 students in the CSU); and
13. WHEREAS, The federal government and other governmental agencies are reducing student financial aid programs at this time, and this will only make the problem of access more acute; and

14. WHEREAS, Increases in student fees would undermine the current efforts to make higher education, including graduate education, accessible to lower income, women, and ethnic minority students. The effect of increased student fees is felt more by low income people than by high income people; and

15. WHEREAS, The CSU system is most vulnerable to declines and shifts in enrollment due to increases in student fees; therefore be it

1. RESOLVED: That we, the faculty of California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, call upon the Governor and the state legislature to take action to find alternative sources of revenue, other than increased student fees or tuition, to alleviate the current fiscal crisis and to fully fund the CSU system; and be it further

2. RESOLVED: That if the Chancellor, Board of Trustees, the Governor, or the Legislature deem it necessary to increase student fees, or to impose tuition, that the impact upon low income students be offset by increased student grant/loan programs provided by the State of California; and be it further

3. RESOLVED: That President Warren J. Baker forward this resolution as soon as possible to Governor Jerry Brown, State Senator Henry Mello, Assemblywoman Carol Hallet, Chairpersons of the Assembly and Senate Education and Ways and Means Committees, Chancellor Glenn S. Dumke, all members of the Board of Trustees--CSU System, and local news media sources.

1 "The one universal finding from these studies is that price does affect access. Every single study finds significant negative relationship between the net price faced by students and their probability of attending college." California Post-secondary Education Commission, The Price of Admission: An Assessment to the Impact of Student Charges on Enrollments and Revenues in California Public Higher Education, adopted February, 1980, p. 41.


3 C.P.E., p. 42.

4 C.P.E.C., p. 80

APPROVED

May 18, 1982