

**ACADEMIC SENATE
of
CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY
San Luis Obispo, CA**

AS-741-12

**RESOLUTION ON DIRECTION OF EXPENDITURES
FOR THE CSU ONLINE INITIATIVE**

- 1 WHEREAS, Faculty have primacy over the curriculum and have specialized knowledge of the
2 skills and subject matter pertaining to their respective disciplines and the expertise
3 and experience to determine which particular pedagogical methods can most
4 effectively convey those skills and that subject matter to their students; and
5
- 6 WHEREAS, The success of a system-wide online initiative depends crucially on widespread
7 faculty involvement, engagement and consultation at all stages of its development;
8 and
9
- 10 WHEREAS, Well-designed and executed online programs can be a useful addition to the
11 variety of pedagogical methods available to faculty; and
12
- 13 WHEREAS, A CSU system-wide initiative can offer potential benefits (1) in the financing and
14 marketing of online programs due to economies of scale, (2) in serving as a
15 repository of best practices developed at several CSU campuses, and (3) in
16 creating opportunities for inter-campus collaborations; and
17
- 18 WHEREAS, A system-wide online initiative must address in a clear and transparent manner
19 core issues including but not limited to (1) the intellectual property rights of
20 faculty, (2) the quality and effectiveness of online courses, programs, and degrees,
21 (3) faculty involvement in curriculum development, approval, and oversight, (4)
22 student, faculty, and program assessment, and (5) the scope and nature of online
23 offerings in comparison to traditional modes of delivery; and
24
- 25 WHEREAS, Faculty working at their individual campuses within their particular disciplines
26 who have immediate knowledge both of the demands of those disciplines and the
27 needs of their students are expected to develop their own courses and programs
28 for the traditional classroom; the same shall be held with regard to online courses;
29 and
30
- 31 WHEREAS, Faculty need far greater clarity concerning the core issues (listed above) and other
32 issues than were provided during the CSU Online Webcast of November 26 2011,
33 during which several important issues were deferred to the newly hired Executive
34 Director for the CSU Online initiative; and
35

36 WHEREAS, Although faculty consultation conducted thus far is described as “broad-based” on
37 the CSU Online website, only 10 of 23 campuses were consulted; therefore be it
38
39 RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, call upon the Chancellor
40 to give top priority in all short-term expenditures related to the development of
41 CSU Online to obtaining broad-based faculty consultation and active involvement
42 across all 23 CSU campuses that addresses the multiple and subtle core issues
43 related to the development of CSU Online; and be it further
44
45 RESOLVED: that the Academic Senate of Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, call upon the Chancellor
46 to ensure the CSU neither enters into any contracts with external service providers
47 for CSU Online nor incurs any significant expenditures other than for the purpose
48 of faculty consultation until consensus has been reached among all 23 campus
49 Senates on a clear and transparent plan for CSU Online; and be it further
50
51 RESOLVED That copies of this resolution be distributed among CSU campus Senate Chairs,
52 the Executive Committee of the CSU Academic Senate, Chancellor Charles B.
53 Reed, Executive Vice Chancellor Ephraim P. Smith, Executive Vice Chancellor
54 and Chief Financial Officer Benjamin F. Quillian, the Technology Steering
55 Committee Presidents (Karen Haynes, Jolene Koester, Rollin Richmond, Richard
56 Rush, John Welty, F. King Alexander, Jeff Armstrong, Millie Garcia, Paul Zingg),
57 and members of the CSU Board of Trustees.

Proposed by: Academic Senate Online Task Force
Date: December 11 2011
Revised: January 10 2012

State of California
Memorandum

CAL POLY
SAN LUIS OBISPO

To: Rachel Fernflores
Chair, Academic Senate

Date: February 28, 2012

From: Jeffrey D. Armstrong
President



Copies: K. Enz Finken
E. Smith
B. Tietje

Subject: **Response to Academic Senate Resolution AS-741-12**
Resolution on Direction of Expenditures for the CSU Online Initiative

This memo formally acknowledges receipt of the above-entitled Academic Senate resolution.