

SDSU Senate Resolution in Response to Reductions to the CSU Budget

WHEREAS: Quality and access have been the twin goals that have distinguished the CSU as a public higher education institution serving the citizens of the State of California since the CSU's creation by the Donahoe Act in 1960; and

WHEREAS: Both the quality of education and access have been increasingly threatened by the more than \$500 million shortfall in the resources provided to the CSU over the last three years; and

WHEREAS: This shortfall has gradually undercut both the quality of education and access by escalating student-faculty ratios, increasing class sizes, expanding reliance on temporary faculty, reducing staffing to support instruction and technological infrastructure, reducing the ability to maintain adequate library collections, and resulting in non-competitive faculty salaries while increasing faculty service loads and reducing their capacity to mentor and advise students; and

WHEREAS: The Governor's proposed 2008-09 budget projects a further reduction of \$312.9 million to the CSU budget approved by the CSU Board of Trustees for the 2008-09 fiscal year; and

WHEREAS: The proposed budget fails to fund access to 10,000 students, to provide \$36 million in mandatory costs including employee health benefits, to fund compensation agreements for CSU faculty and staff, and does not include the \$73.2 million needed to buy out a 10 percent student fee increase, thus further eroding both quality and access; and

WHEREAS: The projected proportional reduction in the SDSU budget of \$14.3 to 18.4 million would be devastating to the University's ability to maintain normal operations; and

WHEREAS: In the wake of the proposed reductions, SDSU is compelled to reduce enrollment for 2008-09 by 2800 students; and

WHEREAS: Continued reductions seriously compromise the ability of the University to meet the basic obligations of its mission; and

WHEREAS: Every \$1 invested in the CSU results in \$4.41 in return; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the SDSU Senate strongly condemn and oppose the reductions to the CSU budget, which threaten both the quality of education and access, and urges the Governor and the California Legislature to restore the full \$386.1 million in funding to the CSU; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the SDSU Senate support the CSU Academic Senate Resolution AS-2831-08 of January 17-18, 2008, and join in urging the CSU Board of Trustees (BOT) and the Chancellor to work with the Governor and Legislature to effect that restoration; and be it further

RESOLVED: That copies of this resolution be sent to SDSU President Dr. Stephen L. Weber, the SDSU Alumni Association President, the BOT, and the CSU Chancellor.