

Resolution on Impact of Budget on Instructional Rigor and Quality

WHEREAS, The Academic Senate of CSUSM recognizes its responsibility as the representative body of the faculty and that faculty have purview over the academic quality of the credit granting courses offered by the University; and

WHEREAS, The proposed budget cuts will likely necessitate a reduction in adjunct faculty with no commensurate increase in permanent faculty resulting in increased workload for remaining faculty; and

WHEREAS, Either an increase in faculty workload or class size will negatively affect rigor and quality; and

WHEREAS, Academic excellence and instructional quality are core values of CSUSM and stated as a primary mission of the University; and

WHEREAS, The faculty of the CSU and CSUSM has accommodated increases in workload and class size over the past decade by working harder to maintain the rigor and quality in all classes; and

WHEREAS, The writing requirement, historically recognized as a unique quality enhancement offered by CSUSM, may be a casualty of increases in faculty workload or class size; and

WHEREAS, Any further increase in class size will exceed many faculty members ability and willingness to accommodate further; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Academic Senate of CSUSM encourage CSUSM faculty to protect the rigor and quality of their classes by informing Department Chairs and Deans of the limits of their ability and degree of their unwillingness to accommodate increased workloads and larger class sizes; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Academic Senate of CSUSM urge campus administrators to do everything in their power to protect the instructional rigor and quality of classes offered at CSUSM by minimizing the impact of proposed budget cuts on instructional activities; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Academic Senate of CSUSM recommends that the campus administration commit to the principle that alternative sources of budget cuts will have priority over increases in faculty workload or increases in class size when developing strategies to cope with budget reductions.