
Resolution on Impact of Budget on Library and Instructional and Information Technology Services (IITS) Resources, Collections, and Services

WHEREAS, The Academic Senate of CSUSM recognizes its responsibility as the representative body of the faculty and that faculty rely on the academic quality of the resources, collections, and services of the library and IITS to support the curriculum and student learning; and

WHEREAS, The proposed budget cuts will likely necessitate a significant reduction in library electronic and print collections which will be further aggravated by reduced access to instructional and research resources from other institutions; and

WHEREAS, The proposed budget cuts will reduce the library's collections budget by approximately 12% in 2008-09 and approximately 28% in 2009-10 and force significant cuts in reference, electronic databases, and journal subscriptions; and

WHEREAS, The proposed budget cuts will further reduce purchases of books, videos, and other monographic collections, which already represent less than 5% of the library collection budget due to constant inflationary increases in costs of on-going commitments in areas such as journal subscriptions; and

WHEREAS, The proposed budget cuts affecting library collections will be further exacerbated by an average annual inflation of more than 8% in publisher prices which is anticipated to erode the library's collection budget by an additional \$50,000 each year; and

WHEREAS, The proposed budget will cut the library's interlibrary loan budget by approximately 33% resulting in significantly reducing faculty and students' ability to borrow books, journal articles, and other research materials from other institutions; and

WHEREAS, The proposed budget cuts will likely result in a disproportionate impact on certain academic programs with more expensive collection materials, with higher use of interlibrary loan, and with greater need for current materials; and

WHEREAS, The proposed budget cuts will likely conflict with the University's strategic priority to integrate appropriate technology throughout the academic experience; and

WHEREAS, The proposed budget cuts will likely conflict with the University's strategic priority to commit to student-based research and creative activity thereby jeopardizing academic excellence; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Academic Senate of CSUSM urge campus administrators to recognize the importance of students' and faculty access to research materials and instructional services when considering proposed budget cuts to resources, collections, and services of the library and IITS; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Academic Senate of CSUSM recommends that the campus administration commit to the principle that budget decisions should be made in a manner consistent with the role of library resources, collections and services and IITS in the University's strategic priorities.