Resolution to Include Faculty Governance and Collective Bargaining Representatives in Academic Affairs Budget Discussions and Decision-making Processes

WHEREAS, The State of California anticipates a budget deficit in 2008-2009 currently estimated to exceed \$14 billion dollars; and

WHEREAS, Governor Schwarzenegger has asked every state agency to make budget cuts of 10% in their 2008-2009 budget; and

WHEREAS, This means a budget reduction of \$312 million for the California State University for AY 2008-2009; and

WHEREAS, The challenges posed by these cuts to each CSU campus will be significant and difficult; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees, Chancellor Reed, the Academic Senate CSU, the California Faculty Association, and other collective bargaining agents have agreed to work together to persuade the Legislature not to enact such cuts; and

WHEREAS, Although outcomes of combined system efforts to restore proposed cuts have yet to be determined and the final challenges to the system and to CSUSM are as yet unknown; and,

WHEREAS, Even in a climate of great uncertainty, prudence requires some prior planning for budget reductions; and

WHEREAS, CSUSM is in the process of putting together information to begin its discussion of and planning for possible budget cuts; and

WHEREAS, Faculty representatives sit on the President's Cabinet and on the University Budget Committee which meet monthly or even less frequently, making quick consultation with faculty concerning budget difficult; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Academic Senate CSUSM pledge to work cooperatively with the President and her leadership team to confront and plan for the challenges of the AY 2008-2009 budget; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Academic Senate CSUSM urge the Provost to ask both the Academic Senate CSUSM and CSUSM CFA chapter leadership to attend meetings of the Academic Affairs Leadership Council which concern discussion of and planning for any budget reductions in AY 2008-2009; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Academic Senate CSUSM ask the Provost to direct Deans in Academic Affairs to include either appropriate college/unit faculty governance or (in the absence of any formal faculty governance institutions) elected faculty representatives in ongoing discussions about budget reductions or planning for AY 2008-2009.