



Resolution in Support of a Fully-Funded CSU

Resolution 2017-03

Authored By: Chris Morales

- Whereas, the Associated Students, Inc. (ASI) Board of Directors of the California State University San Marcos (CSUSM) is the official governing body of the students of CSUSM; and
- Whereas, ASI is the primary advocate for students at CSUSM and is dedicated to providing services designed to create and enhance a learning-focused campus environment; and
- Whereas, the mission of ASI is to serve, engage, and empower students, while protecting the rights and interests of students¹; and
- Whereas, it is the responsibility of ASI to advocate for an accessible and affordable California State University (CSU) for all students; and
- Whereas, California's Master Plan for Higher Education, located in Title 3 of the California Education Code, states that the goal of the CSU is to provide access to education, and the opportunity for educational success, for all qualified Californians²; and
- Whereas, CSU Chancellor Timothy White has repeatedly stated that the CSU remains financially under-resourced while continuing to be California's best investment for a strong economy³; and
- Whereas, CSUSM is committed to offering an affordable and high-quality education to its growing population of over 15,000 students; and
- Whereas, CSUSM President Karen Haynes has stated that "reducing academic quality, turning students away, and charging higher tuition are all distasteful and largely unacceptable not just for us, but for our region and our state"⁴; and
- Whereas, the California State Student Association (CSSA) serves as the single recognized voice of the growing 470,000 students in the CSU, while advocating for them on issues of higher education pertaining to access and affordability; and
- Whereas, CSSA President David Lopez has stated that "CSU students should not be expected to bear any additional financial burden for pursuing a college degree"⁵; and
- Whereas, the Academic Senate of the California State University (ASCSU) has

stated that “a potential tuition increase is an option of last resort when inadequate state funding threatens to erode the mission of the CSU and the quality of the education it provides”⁶; and

Whereas, the Academic Senate of California State University San Marcos has expressed its opposition to the proposed tuition increase and has urged the California Legislature and the Governor to reinvest in higher education⁷; and

Whereas, the Public Policy Institute of California has found that “the most significant change to higher education in California has been the state’s reduced role in providing funding”⁸; and

Whereas, state investment in support of the CSU has moved from approximately 80 percent in the mid-1990s to closer to 50 percent by 2016/2017⁹; and

Whereas, the Campaign for College Opportunity has found that “for every \$1 that California invests in students who attain higher education, the state receives \$4.80 in return”¹⁰; and

Whereas, the CSU is only now, as of 2016/2017, funded at prerecession levels of 2007/2008, despite serving 20,000 additional students⁹; and

Whereas, on September 29, 2016, the CSU Office of the Chancellor released a proposal on a possible tuition increase of no more than \$270 for the 2017/2018 academic year to address this funding shortfall; and

Whereas, students across the CSU are struggling to afford basic needs, leading to unacceptable levels of food and housing insecurity among students, and an average student loan debt of \$15,531 upon graduation¹¹; now therefore be it

Resolved, that the Associated Students, Inc. of California State University San Marcos opposes the potential tuition increase for the 2017/2018 academic year; and be it further

Resolved, that ASI opposes any future tuition increase, as it fundamentally stands against California’s Master Plan for Higher Education’s original vision for the CSU and places further financial burden on its students; and be it further

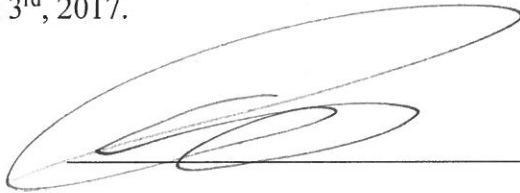
Resolved, that ASI firmly believes that it is the responsibility of the state legislature to properly fund the CSU as an investment in California’s future; and be it further

Resolved, that ASI urges the consistent collaboration between students, faculty, staff, administration, and alumni in advocacy efforts pertaining to issues of accessibility and affordability for CSU students; and be it further

Resolved, that ASI commits to working with CSSA and the CSU to generate long-term funding solutions and public support for investing in public higher education; and be it finally

Resolved, that this resolution be distributed widely, including, but not limited to, the CSU Board of Trustees, the CSU Office of the Chancellor, the California State Student Association, the CSUSM Office of the President, the CSUSM Office of the Provost, the CSUSM Vice President of Student Affairs, the CSUSM Academic Senate, the CSUSM Chapter of the California Faculty Association, the CSUSM Alumni Association, and the Cougar Chronicle.

I, Collin Bogie, ASI President & CEO, hereby certify that the above Resolution was approved by the Board of Directors of Associated Students, Inc., at a regularly scheduled meeting held on March 3rd, 2017.



Collin Bogie

03-06-17

Date

¹<http://www.csusm.edu/asi/about/index.html>

²California Education Code, Title 3, § 66010.2

³<https://www2.calstate.edu/csu-system/media-center/Pages/PPIC-Study-Affirms-More-State-Funding-Needed-for-Public-Higher-Education-.aspx>

⁴<http://news.csusm.edu/report-to-the-community-2017/>

⁵<http://tuition.calstatestudents.org/2016/10/21/letter-from-cssa-president-david-m-lopez/>

⁶<https://www.calstate.edu/acadsen/Records/Resolutions/2016-2017/documents/3282.shtml>

⁷<https://csusm.app.box.com/s/4qv7oa86cx9dx989mvwqrlkmy6p11dv6>

⁸http://www.ppic.org/content/pubs/report/R_410HJR.pdf

⁹<https://www2.calstate.edu/Documents/Possible-17-18-Tuition-Proposal.pdf>

¹⁰http://collegecampaign.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/WEBFINAL_HEPrimer_2016.pdf

¹¹<https://www2.calstate.edu/csu-system/media-center/documents/financial%20aid%20fact%20sheet%2015-16.pdf>