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Resolution of Commendation for Transparent Budget Practices at California State University, San Bernardino

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A Resolution of Commendation for Transparent Budget Practices at California State University, San Bernardino

INTRODUCED BY THE
EDUCATIONAL POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

WHEREAS: Budget transparency can build trust and confidence in the integrity of the university budget process and priorities; and

WHEREAS: Such trust and confidence may encourage greater participation and concurrence from faculty and staff in building stronger and more collaborative academic and support programs with enhanced efficiency and effectiveness; and

WHEREAS: Budget transparency at multiple levels can better motivate faculty and staff to plan and pursue departmental and professional goals which also work in the aggregate towards higher achievement of university goals; and

WHEREAS: Such transparent and cooperative practices can help to nurture future campus leaders with greater budget understanding and expertise; now therefore let it be

RESOLVED: That the Faculty Senate of California State University, San Bernardino (CSUSB) commends the many exemplary contributions of those on our campus who have demonstrated notable dedication in striving for and implementing budget transparency over the years; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Faculty Senate particularly commends the following contributions:

- At the beginning of the academic year, the division of administration and finance posts on its website the General Fund baselines for the entire campus, showing the allocations from the campus to the divisions and line-item breakdowns within the divisions and the colleges – with no gatekeeper controlling access.
- At least one college produces a budget book, distributed to all faculty within the college, which details the allocations from the college to each of its departments for part-time instruction, operating expenses, and various initiatives, in addition to listing the number of filled permanent positions by department.
- At least one college posts on its website the minutes of its meetings between the dean and the college's chairs council, and informs faculty members that any budget documents distributed to chairs at those meetings are available to them upon request.
- At least one department reaches budget decisions by making available to every member its estimates of how much it will receive from each revenue source and how much it expects to spend on routine operating expenses, so that its

members can see how the difference is derived and can then decide how to allocate it for other purposes (such as travel and an instructional lab).

And be it further:

RESOLVED: That the Faculty Senate highly encourages all concerned to significantly extend both the scope reach of this existing transparency across all units, colleges, and departments; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Faculty Senate recommends that colleges produce a budget book that provides (at a minimum) the following information and without limiting access:

- allocations of *filled* and *budgeted* (filled plus unfilled) permanent positions by department (probably the single-most important allocative statistics of interest to departments and their faculty);
- allocations for part-time instruction and the data and formula on which they are based;
- allocations for operating expenses, summer session incentive funds, CERF funds, and miscellaneous initiatives;

And be it further

RESOLVED: That the Faculty Senate also suggests that departments make their budget decisions in the spirit of shared governance amongst their members; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Faculty Senate distribute copies of this resolution to the President, the Provost, the President's Cabinet, the Administrative Council, and the Academic Affairs Council of California State University, San Bernardino.

FSD 12-04

Approved by the CSUSB Faculty Senate, unanimously



Jodie Ullman, Chair

April 9, 2013
Date