Request for Consultation in the Event of Proposed Program Elimination

Resolved that the Academic Senate requests in the event an additional reduction in the CSUDH budget is required in the next four months that the President consult with the Senate or Executive Committee of the Senate and that all other options be first considered prior to implementing any academic program or department elimination; and be it further

Resolved that with respect to the process for consideration of any program or department elimination that the President, or her/his designees, e.g., the Deans of the various Colleges, shall submit to the respective faculty chairs the initial proposal for elimination of any program or department for consideration by the faculty at large; and be it further

Resolved that no action should be taken to implement the elimination of any program or department prior to September 1, 2011; and be it further

Resolved that the President consider those aspects of Senate Resolution EXEC 01-05 that relate to the discontinuance or elimination of programs or departments, to the extent such Resolution may provide a reasonable, orderly and applicable process which includes the collaboration with all impacted segments of the CSUDH as an institution.

Rationale: The political environment in the State is such that CSUDH is faced with a large budget reduction for the Academic year 2011-2012. Based on the known budget reduction assumptions that have been provided in the past several months and the planning and implementation of earlier reduction requirements, it has been assumed that the financial position of CSUDH for the Fall 2011 has been adequately addressed. However, there is a possibility that a further severe reduction of the budget allocation to the CSU system could occur for the Academic year 2011-2012. Too many variables and unknowns make it impossible to know with absolute certainty at this time what the final financial status will be for the next year. As a consequence, there is great anxiety and concern among a significant segment of the faculty that draconian cuts in services, personnel and programs are a possibility. Though this anxiety is based on the real uncertainty about what may occur with regard to the budget for next year, it is the desire of the Senate that the President actively continue to consult with the faculty representatives in the event of a major change in the budget during the summer break that is just ahead. Moreover, it is believed to be in the best interests of the faculty that if and when program or department elimination becomes a necessary reality, that the process should originate through the efforts of the administration to submit its proposals to the faculty at large though the Deans of the Colleges. It is recognized that the development of a satisfactory process to address program or department elimination prior to the summer break is not feasible and therefore it is recommended that the previous effort of the Academic Senate in 2001 to propose a process that included program or department elimination be considered to the extent it is applicable and reasonable.