

1 **FS 14/15-43/EX Student Success Fees in the CSU, Opposition to:**

2 The Faculty Senate opposes the imposition of the type of Category II fees commonly referred to as
3 Student Success Fees on students enrolled at California State Universities.

4 **Resolution in Opposition to Student Success Fees at California State Universities**

5 WHEREAS: Since 2008 individual campuses in the CSU have introduced Student Success Fees, in
6 addition to regular tuition and other campus-based fees as a way of augmenting the state's general fund
7 support for institutional programs and other basic higher education needs, and

8 WHEREAS: About half of the campuses in the CSU have instituted such fees, which vary across
9 campuses and range from \$162 to \$630, equal to 3%-12% of tuition, and

10 WHEREAS: Traditionally, campus-based Category II fees have been used to cover incidental classroom
11 costs (e.g., laboratory fees) or to support activities not covered by state funding or regular tuition (e.g., a
12 student union expansion or a child day-care center), but Student Success Fees are primarily intended to
13 support basic classroom instruction, and

14 WHEREAS: The failure of the State of California to adequately support higher education has resulted in
15 fiscal pressures leading campuses to establish and increase Student Success Fees, but such Fees amount to
16 a tax on students to receive the education they deserve, and

17 WHEREAS: In most cases, Student Success Fees are used to fund activities that state support
18 (supplemented by regular tuition) should be funding, such as faculty hiring, and therefore the Fees
19 amount to de facto tuition hikes under a different name, and

20 WHEREAS: Questions have been raised about the consultation process by which students have been
21 asked to approve or disapprove such fee proposals, and there appears to be a lack of consistency across
22 campuses that leads to concerns about whether genuine student consultation has taken place, and

23 WHEREAS: Student Success Fees may run the risk of exacerbating differences in quality and
24 opportunity among campuses as students on some campuses may be better able to support the increases
25 than others, and

26 WHEREAS: Student Success Fees have been interpreted as an effort by the CSU to side-step the freeze
27 on tuition increases that is part of the multi-year funding proposal for higher education proposed by the
28 governor, and the Chair of the Assembly Budget Subcommittee 2 (Education Finance) stressed that the
29 fees might undercut the Assembly's willingness to support budget augmentations requested by the CSU,
30 therefore be it

31 RESOLVED: That the Faculty Senate of the California State University, Sacramento (CSUS) oppose the
32 imposition of Student Success Fees at California State Universities, and be it further

33 RESOLVED: That the Faculty Senate express its appreciation that CSU, Sacramento has not sought to
34 initiate the process of considering imposition of Student Success Fees, and be it further

35 RESOLVED: That this resolution be distributed to President Gonzalez, the Academic Senate of the
36 California State University, campus senate chairs, the Board of Trustees of the California State
37 University, and the CSU Trustee Workgroup on Student Success Fees.