May 13, 2004

To: Academic Senate Electorate

From: Diana Guerin, Secretary
Academic Senate

Subject: Referendum on Academic Senate Action ASD 04-41

As described in BL 03-5 in UPS 100.001, I submit to you the following “brief pro and con summary of Academic Senate debate” on ASD 04-41, Evaluation of the Proposal for Restructuring the College of Human Development and Community Service in order to Create a College of Education.

In Favor of ASD 04-41

- Teacher education is central to the mission of the university, and this should be reflected in the university’s structure by having a separate College of Education
- The university will save money: a Dean of Education can better manage the accelerating costs of teacher education, e.g., other CSU education deans are realizing savings far beyond $65,000 by restructuring master teacher contracts
- The cost of implementation is negligible because the infrastructure is already in place; only one administrative position (Dean of College of Education) is planned; no new space or additional support staff are required
- Recruiting leadership for the existing College of HDCS has been persistently difficult, because of the unusual, diverse set of programs
- The report recommends delaying hire of permanent dean until 2007, thereby minimizing costs and allowing for continuity of leadership through the next accreditation of education programs
- The colleges resulting from this restructuring would be of sufficient size and comprise a rational grouping of programs
- Demographic data project continuing demand for teachers in our region
- The proposal has been supported by all reviewing bodies and by the faculty in HDCS; comments at two university-wide open hearings were virtually unanimous in support

Against ASD 04-41

- This is not the time to implement this proposal; implementation would divert money away from the primary mission of the university, instruction, when the budget for next year is still uncertain
- The cost estimated for next year of $65,000 could be used to fund 16 course sections (seats for about 500 students); the combined costs over the first four years, taking the committee’s estimates at face value, exceed $300,000
- Due to recent budget cutbacks, students are being denied access to the CSU; those who are here are taking longer to graduate due to cuts in course offerings
- Only 46.7% of the campus budget is spent on direct instruction, our primary mission
- Due to budget concerns, 25 out of 33 tenure-track faculty searches were cancelled this year which, when combined with retirements, separations, and FERPs, will result in loss of 40 full-time faculty positions; also, faculty salaries for summer 2004 were cut about 15% to reduce the impact of budget cuts on course offerings and faculty positions
- Recent news reports show demand for elementary school teachers is declining; teachers in local districts are being laid off and class sizes raised
- Administration at CSUF continues to grow; money spent on administration salaries increased $360,000 from October 2002 to October 2003, while that spent for faculty salaries decreased $1.8 million