

**Affirmation of the Importance of Our Commitment to Affordable,  
Quality Education and Shared Governance  
by the Academic Senate of  
California State University, Chico  
May 2012**

**WHEREAS**, The people of California have bestowed a public trust on the members of the California State University to promote and provide a high-quality, postsecondary education for Californians; and

**WHEREAS**, The California legislature has ordained that this responsibility be exercised through a system of shared governance, which currently includes faculty, staff, students and administrators; and

**WHEREAS**, Significant student fee increases are keeping many Californians from attaining a university education, and creating long-term financial liabilities for many others; and

**WHEREAS**, The decline in faculty numbers and pay, and the corresponding marked increase in class size, together have significantly compromised teaching quality within the CSU; and

**WHEREAS**, The management approach and priorities of the Board of Trustees and the Chancellor's Office have resulted in building up the authority, pay, and numbers of management personnel, while decreasing the same for faculty; and

**WHEREAS**, Initiatives and policies have been created and enacted by the Board of Trustees and the Chancellor's Office without significant prior and/or ongoing consultation with faculty, staff, students and administrators, and in some cases against the express wishes of representatives of those parties (e.g., mandatory early start programs, the CalState Online initiative, and the graduation initiative); therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Academic Senate of California State University, Chico (CSUC), consisting of faculty, staff, students and administrators, urges all appropriate bodies, especially the Board of Trustees and the Chancellor's Office, to make every effort to mitigate fee increases for all students, including students in extension courses, so that they predictably correlate with general inflation and cost of living increases; and

**RESOLVED**, That the Academic Senate (CSUC) urges the Board of Trustees and the Chancellor's Office to embrace and fully participate in true shared governance with faculty, staff, students and administrators, on matters of academic policies and programs and in other areas appropriate to their roles and responsibilities; and

**RESOLVED**, That the Academic Senate (CSUC) urges the Board of Trustees and the Chancellor's Office to negotiate contracts in a way that reflects our shared purpose and consistently seeks common ground; and

**RESOLVED**, That the Academic Senate (CSUC) urges that the Board of Trustees and the Chancellor's Office advocate, forcefully and unrelentingly, for the restoration of state funding for the California State University system, especially for instructional purposes and other activities that support student learning and progress to degree; and

**RESOLVED**, That the Academic Senate (CSUC) urges the Board of Trustees and the Chancellor's Office to adopt a management approach and establish a set of clear priorities that reverse the trend of sacrificing effective authority, pay, and numbers of faculty in favor of that of management; and

**RESOLVED**, That the Academic Senate (CSUC) urges the Board of Trustees and the Chancellor's Office to provide greater autonomy to individual campuses to respond to local conditions and achieve increased efficiency in operations (e.g., with enrollment targets); and

**RESOLVED**, That this resolution be forwarded to the Board of Trustees, the Chancellor, Campus Senate Chairs, and Campus Academic Senates.