

Resolution in Opposition to Proposed Student Parking Fee Increase

Source: Academic Senate Executive Committee

RESOLVED **That the Academic Senate strongly opposes the proposal to increase student parking fees from \$144 per semester to \$342 per semester over the period from 2009 to 2013 to fund the building of additional parking structures.**

RATIONALE

On January 25, 2007, the Student Fee Advisory Committee received a report from a subcommittee on student parking fees. The report included a recommendation to construct "Parking Structure III in Lot E and the Housing Parking Structure for a total of 3,500 spaces." The report recommends increasing general parking fees to all students over the period from 2009 to 2013 from \$144 per semester to \$342 per semester. When fully implemented, the annual cost for student parking would increase from **\$396** to **\$912**.

Student fees in the CSU are impacted by actions taken at both the system and campus level. Raising parking fees to the extent proposed undermines the goal of providing affordable higher education to our students, particularly when the system is also raising student fees. Although student fees in the CSU are competitive, other costs of higher education, including textbooks, computers and other required supplies/equipment, housing, etc., increasingly push higher education out of the reach of many.

In addition, the unresolved contract between the CFA and CSU could potentially impact parking fee revenues. Should the CFA contract include the same language regarding parking fees included in the contract ratified by CSU staff members (CSUEU; see it at <http://www.csueu.org/Bargaining/tabid/63/Default.aspx>), it appears that all employees of the CSU would be paying the same parking fees as students pay by June 2010. Indeed, CSUF administrators already pay the same parking fees as students.

Finally, several campus groups are currently engaged in planning processes, including the Planning, Resources, and Budget Committee, the WASC Steering Committee, and the University Planning Committee. In addition, an all-campus forum on future growth at CSUF in April 2007 has been recommended. The results of these efforts will undoubtedly provide important information bearing on the issue of building additional parking structures at CSUF. It is premature to consider this proposal to raise student parking fees.