

**Resolution Opposing the Professional Fee for Graduate Business Degrees
in the CSU**

#04-07/08-EX – October 23, 2007

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University opposes the implementation of a professional fee for graduate business degrees during a period of significant increases in general CSU student fees; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University calls for system-wide consultation across the disciplines, with the inclusion of student leadership groups, before special statewide students fees are introduced; and be it further

RESOLVED: That this resolution be sent to the Board of Trustees, the Chancellor's Office, the Academic Senate CSU, the California State Student Association, and all CSU campus senates.

RATIONALE: At the CSU Board of Trustees September meeting the future imposition of a graduate fee for MBA students of \$210 per semester unit was on the agenda as an information item with the expectation it would become an action item at the January meeting. Consultation regarding the MBA student fee has been almost completely limited to selected business faculty, deans of business schools and colleges, and central administrators of CSU campuses.

MBA programs are an important means to upward socioeconomic mobility for citizens of California. The CSU provides programs for which accessibility is a crucial and a distinguishing characteristic. Imposing an additional fee will have a negative effect on access to those programs by students of limited means. MBA programs clearly provide economic benefits to the state's General Fund in the form of increased tax revenues from the added incomes accruing to the graduates of those programs, such that the programs more than pay for themselves already.

The effects of such an increase seem likely to include the elimination of the MBA program at Humboldt State University and perhaps at other campuses whose programs, like HSU's, are accredited by regional accrediting agencies but not by the AACSB accrediting association. If the program does survive it is likely it will have to undergo an additional accrediting process whose expenses will far exceed the money which would come to campus as a result of the added fees.

CSU students already have been burdened by multiple increases in student fees in this decade. In addition to MBA programs, many other programs suffer from insufficient state support such that their sustainability is at risk. The implementation of special fees by various disciplines will tend to reduce cooperation with programs without additional fees, will interfere with equality of academic disciplines, and will increase pressures on other programs and colleges to also obtain higher student fees.

APPROVED – October 23, 2007

Merry Schellinger

From: Merry Schellinger [mbs7001@humboldt.edu]
Sent: Monday, November 19, 2007 9:38 AM
To: HSU Academic Senate
Subject: FW: Response to recent Senate actions

TO Members of the Academic Senate

From: Mark A. Larson [mailto:mal2@humboldt.edu]
Sent: Sunday, November 18, 2007 12:08 PM
To: Merry Schellinger
Subject: FW: Response to recent Senate actions

Forward to Senate, please.

Mark

Prof. Mark A. Larson, Chair
 Academic Senate
 Humboldt State University
 707.826.5925

----- Forwarded Message

From: Rollin Richmond <rollinr@humboldt.edu>
Date: Thu, 8 Nov 2007 16:55:23 -0800
To: Merry Schellinger <mbs7001@humboldt.edu>, Mark Larson <mal2@humboldt.edu>
Cc: Carl Coffey <cc7003@humboldt.edu>, Bob Snyder <ras1@humboldt.edu>, Carol Terry <ct7002@humboldt.edu>, Rob Gunsalus <rgunsalus@humboldt.edu>, Steve Butler <svb7001@humboldt.edu>, Patty Lindley <Patty.Lindley@humboldt.edu>, Denice Helwig <dh7003@humboldt.edu>, Greta <mg3@humboldt.edu>
Subject: Response to recent Senate actions

Merry and Mark:

This is in response to your correspondence from the Senate meetings on October 9th and 23rd.

Senate Informational Survey (#02-07/08-EX) - I recently discussed this issue with the Senate leadership. Since you have already acted on the resolution before the time given for my response, it is a moot point. I would emphasize, as I did in my recent conversations with you, that the staff of this university play a significant role in our mission, and they were ignored in this survey. Some of the written responses from the survey contain ideas and directions that are worth considering both for the Senate and the administration. I will work with you to derive as much useful information as possible from the responses you have gathered.

Resolution (#04-07/08-EX) - Professional Fee for Graduate Business Degrees - This resolution and your rationale ignore the highly significant issue of state funding for higher education in California and throughout the nation. The CSU has lost more than \$500M in state funding over the last five years at the same time that salaries and fringe benefits for all its employees have been increasing. I believe that CSU employees deserve to be adequately reimbursed for their work, but the money must come from somewhere. If the citizens of this state are not willing through their elected representatives to support education at the level required to maintain quality and access, then we have little choice but to increase student fees. We have no difficulty in this state in asking graduate students to pay more for their education and have differential tuition for professions that usually receive higher compensation for their labor. This resolution is not carefully considered, and I do not support it.

Rollin

Rollin C. Richmond, President
 Humboldt State University
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----- End of Forwarded Message

1/22/2008