ACADEMIC SENATE OF THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY

AS-3055-12/FGA (Rev) January 19-20, 2012

Opposition to AB 1561 (R. Hernandez), SB 952, (Alquist), and SB 967 (Yee) – Executive and Administrative Compensation

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of the California State University (ASCSU) oppose

Assembly bill 1561(R. Hernandez) and Senate bills 952 (Alguist) and 967 (Yee).

DISTRIBUTION: The CSU Board of Trustees of the California State University, the legislators

named in the title, Senate Education Committee, Assembly Higher Education

Committee, Campus Presidents, and Campus Senate Chairs.

RATIONALE: Each of these bills deals with personnel issues in the California State University. Specifically:

- AB 1561 (R. Hernandez) http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/11-12/bill/asm/ab_1551-1600/ab_1561_bill_20120130_introduced.pdf would (1) prohibit the CSU Board of Trustees from providing a compensation increase for any administrator in a year in which the state general fund appropriation is less than that of the previous fiscal year or in a year when tuition or fees have been increased; and (2) limits the compensation for CSU presidents to no more than \$300,000 (adjusted annually for inflation);
- SB 952 (Alquist) http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/11-12/bill/sen/sb_0951-1000/sb_952_bill_20120314_amended_sen_v98.pdf would limit salary increases for administrators in the CSU to no more than 10% relative to the salary for that contract in the preceding fiscal year; and
- SB 967 (Yee) http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/11-12/bill/sen/sb_0951-1000/sb_967_bill_20120113_introduced.pdf would prohibit the Board of Trustees from increasing the compensation of any CSU executive officer within two years of a fiscal year in whch (1) mandatory statewide university fees have been increased, or (2) the General Fund appropriation to the CSU is less than or equal to that of the preceding year.

Through its elected representatives, the citizens of the State of California have established a Board of Trustees to oversee the CSU and to ensure that their interests and the interests of the state are safeguarded with regard to the operations of the University. Board members include the Governor, the President of the Senate (Lieutenant Governor), the Speaker of the Assembly, and the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. The majority of the Board members have been confirmed by the Senate.

The ASCSU maintains that CSU personnel issues are matters involving the internal operations of the University and are thus, properly, the responsibility of the Board of Trustees, including issues of compensation. While the public and the legislature, as citizens of the state of California, have the right to voice their

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concerns over actions taken by the Board, such concerns are more appropriately addressed through the Board of Trustees and not by direct legislative involvement in the internal operations of the CSU.

Approved – March 15-16, 2012