

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, EAST BAY

Designation Code: **06-07 BEC 9** (*revised*)
Date Submitted: April 3, 2007

TO: The Academic Senate
FROM: Executive Committee
SUBJECT: Sustainability Resolution
PURPOSE: For Action by the Academic Senate

ACTION

REQUESTED: That the Academic Senate approve the following Resolution:

Whereas, in 1987, the United Nations World Commission on Environment and Development declared that "Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." And,

Whereas, California State University, East Bay embraces principles of sustainable development that promote:

- A vital and sustainable economy based on the "triple bottom line" (attention to environmental, social and financial performance).
- Commitment to social justice that includes the rights of future generations.
- Respect and care for the greater community of life in all its diversity, including protection and restoration of the earth's ecosystems. And,

Whereas, California State University, East Bay aspires to be a national and international model for sustainable practices in all dimensions of its operations (teaching, research, business and finance). And,

Whereas, California State University, East Bay has an obligation to help train citizens for participation in a democratic society. And,

Whereas, California State University, East Bay has an obligation to help students become environmentally literate citizens, who understand the principles of sustainability. And,

Whereas, the State of California has adopted Executive Order S-20-04, which recognizes that state institutions such as the California State University are major consumers of energy and natural resources, and asks these institutions to reduce the use of non-renewal resources as well as increase energy efficiency. And,

Whereas, the State of California has adopted Executive Order S-3-5, which recognizes that California is vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and that we must take action to reduce the use of fossil fuels and reduce our carbon footprint. And,

Whereas, the California State University has an obligation to the citizens of the state of California to be wise stewards of scarce resources and to assure the continued economic and ecological viability of the state. Be it therefore

Resolved that the Academic Senate of CSU East Bay supports actions to make climate neutrality and sustainability a part of the curriculum (including campus facilities and grounds as learning laboratories) and other educational experience for all students. And be it further

Resolved that the Academic Senate of CSU East Bay supports the expansion of research and other efforts necessary to achieve climate neutrality and sustainability.

BACKGROUND

INFORMATION: Marshelle Thobaben, on behalf of the ASCSU Executive Committee, provided a draft of this resolution, prepared by the Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC) Education & Research Subcommittee. She noted that a version of it will be considered by the Academic Senate CSU at its May plenary. Given the timeliness of this issue, the Executive Committee voted to place this on the Senate agenda, with one of the proposed "whereas clauses" deleted at the suggestion of President Qayoumi. That clause could have been interpreted as an endorsement of specific policy proclamations whose details are unclear to the Executive Committee and which might be difficult to implement.

References:

http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=23543&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html
http://www.ulsf.org/programs_talloires.html
<http://www.presidentsclimatecommitment.org/>
<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/energy/ExecOrderS-20-04.htm>
<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/energy/ExecOrderS-3-05.htm>