TO: The Academic Senate

FROM: Committee on Budget and Resource Allocation (COBRA)

SUBJECT: Dissemination of “Principles for Faculty Participation in University Budget Decisions”

ACTION REQUESTED: That the Senate endorse the following recommendation to the Provost

At the beginning of each academic year, the Senate-approved Principles of Faculty Participation in University Budget Decisions (2006-07 COBRA 1, revised), will be provided by Academic Affairs to UPABC members and to the heads of academic units, including Department Chairs, Deans and the University Librarian.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: In Spring 2007 the Academic Senate approved the following Principles, which had been developed by COBRA:

Principles of Faculty Participation in University Budget Decisions

In the spirit of shared governance and budget transparency, broad faculty participation in the budgeting process at CSUEB is of the utmost importance. Therefore, faculty involvement will be encouraged and facilitated in planning and development of budgetary priorities within their departments and programs, colleges and library, and the university as a whole. Budgeting will be a collaborative process, informed by planning and assessment, benchmarks for success, and transparency and accountability at all levels.

In 2007-08, COBRA considered how to institutionalize these principles. In so doing, it was discovered that there is no existing policy document into which the Principles can be incorporated and there is no automatic mechanism for regularly conveying the expectations of the Principles to the relevant personnel. Without such mechanism, the Principles could be meaningless.

Therefore, the Committee decided at its June 6th meeting, to recommend that the Senate adopt a policy to disseminate the Principles annually to the relevant personnel, as indicated Action Requested above. This was originally sent to the Senate Office as 07-08 COBRA 3. However, the means by which this dissemination would occur was unclear. The 2008-09 COBRA members addressed this issue again to clarify the policy language. The updated recommendation language was approved by COBRA at its meeting on November 7, 2008 and the document was re-numbered to the 08-09 series.