



UNIVERSITY SENATE

Statement of Principles Regarding Budget Allocations and Reductions

As SDSU faces a period of difficult budgetary conditions, the Senate offers the following statement of its position on the values that should guide allocations and reductions. The ultimate goal over the next several years should be to maintain as stable an environment as possible in order to assure that the fundamental academic mission and goals of the University can be sustained. In dealing with impending budget reductions, we should consider the following:

ACADEMIC QUALITY

- Give priority to maintaining educational quality and to sustaining the Teacher-Scholar model.
- Protect the capacity of the university community to engage in original scholarship and creative activity.
- Preserve strategic planning. When making short-term decisions, consider long-term implications.
- Clearly articulate the relationship among quality, access, and resources.
- Serve student needs, with due attention to those currently enrolled.
- Ensure that enrollment is consistent with available resources.
- Ensure that efforts are made to maintain the diversity of students, faculty and staff.

HUMAN RESOURCES

- Affirm that the University *is* its faculty, staff, and students.
- Give careful consideration to the human cost of budget reductions, and ensure that people are valued and treated with respect.
- In the event of substantial budgetary reductions, and after all other avenues have been exhausted, if faculty and staff reductions become necessary, make use of attrition through retirement and resignation, rather than layoffs, as much as possible.

BUDGETARY PROCESS

- Keep the University budgetary process open and inclusive of all constituencies. Continue to communicate budget news, with increasing details as the budget year approaches. Draw upon the widest range of expertise the campus community has to offer.
- Maintain multi-year budgeting, but acknowledge that some worthy programs may need to be deferred or placed on hiatus-not eliminated-until better budgetary times.
- Exercise vigilance to ensure that new program proposals take budgetary realities into account. The Senate recognizes and appreciates the efforts taken so far to educate and inform the campus, to consult with various constituencies, and to plan wisely for future exigencies. We encourage continuation of these efforts.

Reaffirmed by the University Senate, February 5, 2008.