UNIVERSITY RECYCLING RESOLUTION

WHEREAS: It takes 17 trees to make one ton of paper and each year Americans use over 67 million tons of paper, or 600 pounds per person.

WHEREAS: Chico State University uses in excess of 200 tons of paper annually, the equivalent of 3400 trees.

WHEREAS: Paper products consume 35% of the world’s annual commercial wood harvest (a figure which is expected to increase to 50% by the year 2000) and forest harvest exceeds replacement.

WHEREAS: Sanitation costs at Chico State University have risen over $16,000 over the past two years.

WHEREAS: Paper is the largest single component of the nation’s municipal waste stream, and nearly 40% of landfills are composed of paper and paper products.

WHEREAS: Paper is the largest single component of the campus’ waste stream, accounting for over 35% of this waste.

WHEREAS: The energy required to produce a ton of paper from virgin wood pulp is 16,320 KWH compared to 5,919 KWH for producing a ton of paper from waste paper (a savings of 64%).

WHEREAS: 74% less air pollution is produced from the manufacturing of recycled paper compared to paper from virgin wood pulp.

WHEREAS: 35% less water pollution is produced from the manufacturing of recycled paper compared to paper from virgin wood pulp.

WHEREAS: Recycled paper uses 58% less water compared to virgin paper production.

WHEREAS: The quality of recycled paper is equal to paper made from virgin wood pulp and recycled paper often has qualities which make it superior to non-recycled paper, such as being more opaque, dense, and flexible.

WHEREAS: Recycling does not work unless there are markets for new products, and part of being a recycler is purchasing products made from recycled materials, such as recycled white office paper.

WHEREAS: There is legislation pending (AB 4) which instructs all universities in the California State system to, “give purchase preference to recycled paper products.”

NOW, THEREFORE

Be it resolved that the Government Affairs Committee of California State University, Chico strongly encourages the following actions on the part of the University.

1. the procurement of recycled paper by the print shop
2. the use of recycled paper by the print shop, the individual departments, and the administration
3. the recycling of paper throughout the University at all sources of paper waste (print shop, departments, administration, etc.)
4. setting up a committee as part of the Faculty Senate to oversee these provisions as well as identifying new areas of environmental responsibility and recommending solutions to such.
5. offering educational seminars throughout the academic year for faculty staff and students on the benefits of environmental responsibility and on the existing crisis.

AND FURTHER,

Be it resolved that the Government Affairs Committee strongly encourages the conservation of all paper using methods such as printing on both sides of the sheet and the elimination of unnecessary “one-line” memos.

Approved GAC: 3/20/90
Approved BOD: 4/18/90