RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF TAKING STEPS TOWARD ZERO WASTE

Whereas, Sustainability requires both proper procurement and waste disposal; and

Whereas, The Associated Student (AS) of California State University, Chico (CSU, Chico) has adopted Sustainability within its Value Statements and as a strategic priority, and has taken measures to stay aligned with its values; and

Whereas, Zero Waste is important to the value of sustainability in that the (AS) will no longer manage waste, but manage valuable resources and strive to eliminate creation of waste; and

Whereas, There are a series of Zero Waste principles that promote the highest values of emphasizing a closed-loop system of production and consumption that would eliminate waste and pollution through best-use practices of materials and products; and

Whereas, According to a three-day Waste Characterization Analysis performed in spring 2008, the vast majority of waste generated from Dining Services has the potential to be diverted as either compost or recycling, indicating that with the right diversion programs in place, Zero Waste is an achievable goal; and

Whereas, Adopting a goal of Zero Waste disposal and pursuing Zero Waste principles is consistent with the AS Value Statements and Strategic Priorities; and therefore be it

Resolved, That the AS will promote ‘upstream’ redesign strategies to minimize the volume and toxicity of purchases, and will promote low impact consumption; and be it

Resolved, That the AS will improve ‘downstream’ reuse and recycling of materials and products to ensure their proper use and disposal; and be it

Resolved, That the AS will adopt a Zero Waste goal to achieve 75% waste diversion by 2012 and Zero Waste by 2015 (at least 90% diversion rate or better); and be it

Resolved, That the AS will develop a comprehensive plan by 2010 outlining how these goals will be achieved and will generate annual reports on their progress once the plan is completed; and be it finally

Resolved, That this resolution be widely distributed by electronic means to the President’s Cabinet, Academic Senate, Deans, Department Chairs, faculty, staff and students of CSU, Chico in addition to the California State Student Association (CSSA).

Revised 2/18/09

Approved by: BOD: 4/22/09
B. Action Item: Approval of Revisions to Personnel Policy #850, Including Change in Title from Sexual Harassment to Unlawful Harassment. Motion to approve revisions to Personnel Policy #850, including change in title from Sexual Harassment to Unlawful Harassment, as presented (Jelks/Newman). Booth explained this was a very old policy that needed to be updated. She stated there was refreshing of language, terminology was updated, clarifying of procedure, and specifically noted that Human Resources must be contacted and will conduct an investigation. Wright said she liked that this encompasses all types of harassment, not just sexual harassment. 8-0-0 MSC.

C. Action Item: Approval of Resolution in Support of Taking Steps Toward Zero Waste. Motion to approve Resolution in Support of Taking Steps Toward Zero Waste (Wright/Newman). Goodsell provided a PowerPoint presentation and said they did a waste characterization analysis last Wednesday through Friday. He explained what's going in to our waste stream, and in to our Recycling here in the BMU. 65% is currently being diverted, while 35% is in the waste stream. He said food and compostable service wear are the biggest items being thrown in the dumpster. Goodsell said if we'd get everyone to divert the easy items such as cans, plastic bottles and paper, we'd be at 69% diversion rate. He said we'd get 88% diversion rate if we diverted food scraps and compost collection. If we'd get the farm to accept compostable food products as well, we'd be up to 94%. Goodsell said now that we have the data, how do we make it happen? Compost is the number one culprit. We would need more materials, compost bins located in the Market Place and any dining areas throughout the building, as well as rolling carts to service the bins. Education would then need to be done, training for dining service staff, signage and information in the Marketplace. Operations, increase compost pickups/shifts and increase farm partnership and materials accepted. He next reviewed costs for compost bins and signage, as well as food service labor. $1,500 to $2,000 start-up cost. He said it would cost approximately $5,793.75 a year in operational costs. Regarding savings, Goodsell explained NorCal Waste quoted a $2,700 annual savings if we removed one of our dumpsters. If we were at a 90% diversion rate, we should only need one dumpster, which would mean we could remove three, and a potential savings of $8,100 from waste hauling fees. He explained by adopting this policy, there could be potential savings of $2,306.25. Delorenzo asked about the resolution saying put a plan together, and education being a part of the resolution, and questioned how education will be done for both staff as well as students. DiFalco said they are doing on-going, targeted education. She explained that at Whitney they've gained good experience in terms of what they're collecting, which post-consumer compost is (after the food has been on the plate). She said they've learned about visuals, as well as making it easy and convenient. DiFalco said they've been working with Dining Services and hope to eventually be able to have compostable plates, cups, silverware eventually be dumped in to one bin. She explained that trash/compost/recycling bins will eventually be retrofitted in the Marketplace to make it easy for people to do so in the Marketplace. Part of the plan would be to start talking about the costs to do such things as this retrofit. Goodsell said they're doing a pilot project with the farm at this point, and it's been working out good so far. Other areas to compost at, and what they could accept, were discussed. Per DiFalco, at the moment they're using compost for land application for the organic vegetable project at the farm, but they want to make sure it's the right finished compost product. She said they have to get all the farm staff and farm committee to feel really comfortable with it. Goodsell said a grad student will be working there this summer as a project. Rapattoni expressed concern about passing this Resolution with every intent to approach zero waste by 2015, explaining he doesn't feel comfortable with this promise to reach zero waste and then not being able to do so because it's out of our hands, not because of our own effort, but because of outside environment, even though we're trying to obtain it, and then getting bad press. DiFalco said if the AS has implemented the system, and done the best they can, this will get us pretty close, although we have to educate them as much as we can. She said zero waste is a goal to work towards, and the AS can set up a system to facilitate that goal. DiFalco said we can probably get another 10% to 15% more just by making it easier for people. Calandrella said it's an admirable goal to set, and it calls on the AS to develop a comprehensive plan, but thought he saw some money in the presentation that is not mentioned in the resolution. He advised the Board needs to be mindful that we can't do anything for nothing. He said it is a goal as such, and requires a plan to be set. He said the new Board will have an opportunity to look at how we are making our way there, we need to know when we approve today that there's a cost associated with it. The upstream recycling design and downstream disposal were discussed. (Boles stepped out at 12:53 p.m.) Regarding a comprehensive plan, Eller suggested putting together a task force together with key players on it, such as from the College of Agriculture. He explained that he has been sitting on the College of Agriculture Board of Directors and has never been asked for insight regarding this issue. Goodsell and DiFalco agreed that this was a good idea, but realized they've only been working with staff, not students at the farm. Friendly amendment by Wright to approve Resolution in
Support of Taking Steps Toward Zero Waste and within one year review of Comprehensive Plan by 2010, including cost, to be approved by the Board of Directors. 7-0-0 MSC.

D. Information Item: Revisions to Corporate Code Book – Vehicle Usage Policy – (Boles returned to the meeting at 12:58 p.m.). Buckley explained the current policy was not clear on certain infractions that could happen that we would need to be notified as well as other cleanups. Biggest change is if someone receives a serious citation violation, they need to let us know within one business day. Booth also explained the policy was restructured to lay out clear expectations. She also noted if someone receives a DUI or related offense, their AS driving privileges are immediately suspended pending review. Delorenzo suggested adding the wording “including but not limited to” in Section B.1. Calandrella suggested listing samples of the violations that are to be reported within one workday so that it’s clear what types of violations are to be reported.

E. Information Item: AS Marketing Update Presentation – Crystal Peppas provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding marketing. She said the AS is a unique, student-led organization here to enrich the quality of campus life at Chico State. Peppas said one of our responsibilities is to ensure that our campus community is aware of the opportunities the AS provides, and provided samples of who should be telling our story. She provided information regarding current AS marketing as well as our marketing mix and missed marketing opportunities. Peppas next explained marketing in an ideal world, as well as telling the AS Story from the Inside Out. The Board was advised of the following Marketing recommendations: Increase Internal Awareness and Communication, Establish AS Marketing Council, Develop Marketing Toolkit, Coordinated Presence at Campus Events, Examine Social Media Potential and Guidelines, Move toward Integrated Marketing Communications Model.

F. Information Item: Associated Students Budget, Salary and Wages Changes, estimated results 2008-09 and proposed budget 2009-10 – Jennings provided an overview. She advised that overall, there is a proposed increase of around $70,000, with an actual savings related to a decrease in budgeted hours. She said there is an increase in Workers’ Comp and CalPERS retirement percentage from what was estimated. Regarding proposed changes for 2009-10, Jennings said there is almost a $1 million increase in salaries and benefits due to WREC center staff coming on board. She said there is no Cost of Living adjustment proposed for 2009-10, numbers provided are for information only. She said health and dental insurance decreased, but premiums are expected to go up. No wage increases are proposed based on our relationship with the University. She clarified increase for WREC for career employees and student employees. She said AO and Aquatic Center Programs are coming out of Student Union and going in to the WREC Center budget. Booth noted on page 3, regarding the COLA it’s 2008 index used, not 2007. Also, under the second column it should say December 2007, not 2006.

G. Information Item: Associated Students Budget, Corporate Overhead – estimated results 2008-09 and proposed budget 2009-10 – Buckley said the reason it’s important for the Board to see this, and all of these budgets, is they are reflective of all areas paying in to this area. He explained Corporate Overhead is the Business Office, IT, HR and Administration. Buckley said the biggest change is because of the WREC Center coming on, it has reduced the cost for some of the other areas coming on. Buckley said he will be coming back to the board regarding how IT is to be split out and they are still trying to work out the best way to divide out cost of IT. He said there are specific costs to running the IFAS financial system and they are currently leaving it the way it is, but looking at costs and how they’re being charged. He said $60,000 a year charge to the Bookstore may be a bit high.

H. Information Item: Associated Students Budget, Corporate Overhead – Capital Expenditure Budget, estimated results 2008-09 and proposed budget 2009-10 – Buckley said the Capital Expenditure Budget gives a breakdown of all areas and Activity Fee will approve theirs separately. He reviewed the Corporate Overhead information and said no big projects are planned. Jennings said they try to spend what they budgeted for within that year.

I. Director of Legislative Affairs Report – Jelks reported on Monday he and three other students attended the California Higher Education Student Summit in Sacramento. They discussed AB 462, College Affordability Act, with Senators Aanestad and Logue who weren’t very supportive of it, so they looked at other options they can explore to better fund higher education to make it affordable and accessible for students. He said neither works on educational policies so they were both supportive on textbook affordability. Jelks also sat on a panel on how to get government internships. He said Senator Aanestad is interested in coming to campus and wants to be part of a discussion on the budget and higher education issues that Chico State may be having. Eller thanked him for his good work.