Resolution Number: RF93-129
September, 1993

RESOLUTION ON THE
DRAFT POLICY STATEMENT ON DIVERSITY OF THE
WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES (WASC), June 23, 1993

#RF93-129

At its meeting of October 12, 1993, the Academic Senate unanimously approved the following resolution on the Draft Policy Statement on Diversity of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), June 23 1993:

WHEREAS It is a violation of California law and CSU policy for the CSU system, or any part of it, to discriminate in employment or access on the basis of sexual orientation; and

WHEREAS Policies and practices of discrimination against university students and employees based on race, gender, age, disability, religion, or sexual orientation are contrary to University values; and

WHEREAS The campuses of the CSU are members of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) and are accredited by this organization; and

WHEREAS Draft revisions (December 16, 1991, August 31, 1992 and June 23, 1993) of the WASC Statement on Diversity have continued to allow institutions to discriminate based on sexual orientation by stating (June 23, 1993, page 7): “During the course of discussion of this statement, conflicting positions were expressed with respect to how the issue of sexual orientation should be addressed. One of the strengths of associations of diverse colleges and universities is that we can discuss and view some issues from quite different institutional, religious or moral visions. There is no religious or moral consensus on issues of sexual orientation among the institutions accredited by this Commission, and it is certainly not the function of the Commission to impose its own moral stance with respect to the admission of students or the employment of staff and faculty;” and

WHEREAS The San Francisco State University Academic Senate resolved on October 27, 1992 (RF92-110) to endorse the CSU Academic Senate resolution that WASC standards be amended to explicitly prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation; therefore be it

RESOLVED That the San Francisco State University Academic Senate recommend to the Western Association of Schools and Colleges the deletion of the first full paragraph on page 7 of the June 23, 1993 draft, beginning with the word “During” and ending with the word “faculty,” and the deletion, in the first line of the second paragraph on page 7, of “however,”; and be it further

RESOLVED That the San Francisco State University Academic Senate urge the Western Association of Schools and Colleges to clearly designate as unacceptable, discrimination based on sexual orientation; and be it further

RESOLVED That the San Francisco State University Academic Senate again urge the campus senates to convey to their presidents, the Chancellor, and the Western Association of Schools and Colleges their disapproval of allowing institutions seeking or maintaining accreditation to discriminate against faculty, staff, and students based on sexual orientation.