

Resolution #04-05

**In Support of a CSU Sustainability Policy**

- WHEREAS: ASI is the official voice of the Cal Poly, SLO student body, and
- WHEREAS: Cal Poly, SLO is a member institution of the CSU system, and
- WHEREAS: the long term mission of the CSU system is to advance and extend knowledge, learning, and culture, especially throughout California, to provide opportunities for individuals to develop intellectually, personally, and professionally, to prepare significant numbers of educated, responsible people to contribute to California's schools, economy, culture, and future, to encourage and provide access to an excellent education to all who are prepared for and wish to participate in collegiate study, through promoting an understanding and appreciation of the peoples, natural environment, cultures, economies, and diversity of the world (<http://www.calstate.edu/PA/info/mission.shtml>), and
- WHEREAS: The CSU, as the public higher education system of the State of California has an obligation to uphold the values of sustainability and set the highest standards of energy conservation and lead the State of California in the research and development of an economically efficient and environmentally sustainable policy and has previously declared the intent to implement such policies of energy conservation and sustainable development (<http://www.calstate.edu/CPDC/Executive/PolEnergyCons.pdf>), and
- WHEREAS: the benefits of sustainable development and planning are already being embraced by champions of the design and building professions and institutions around the world, and are proving to be the most effective means of reducing the long term costs of building systems, (<http://www.greenclips.com/>; <http://www.sustainability-indexes.com/>;) and
- WHEREAS: the long term cost-savings of applying a sustainability policy have been shown to be upwards of 20 times the initial costs of implementing necessary improvements with the initial investment being approximately 2% of the overall construction costs (<http://www.usgbc.org/Docs/News/News477.pdf>; <http://www.packard.org/pdf/2002Resources.pdf>), and
- WHEREAS: the cost-savings of implementing such a policy as soon as possible would serve to reduce the financial crisis affecting the State of California, and would in turn increase the funding available to each respective institution to preserve their educational missions, and
- WHEREAS: a system wide policy mandating sustainable development on all CSU campuses would be economically compelling, and would encourage member institutions to apply sustainable methods of development within their respective campuses and set standards for producing the healthiest environment possible, including air, water, and natural environment quality while preserving and improving the value of a CSU education, and
- WHEREAS: a system wide sustainability policy would establish a commitment towards designing a sustainable future, on the part of the CSU Board of Trustees and member institutions, and would result in long term financial benefits through the conservation of energy and resources, and would prove that the CSU system is an environmentally, and economically responsible institution, and
- WHEREAS: Cal Poly ASI, Cal Poly Academic Senate, and the CSU CSSA have all officially endorsed resolutions regarding the implementation of sustainable policy within the CSU system, (<http://www.calpoly.edu/~acadsen/resolutions/2003-2004/AS-606-03-DGD.pdf>; [http://www.csustudents.org/documents/resolutions/Sustainability\\_Resolution.pdf](http://www.csustudents.org/documents/resolutions/Sustainability_Resolution.pdf);

<http://www.calpoly.edu/~acadsen/resolutions/2003-2004/AS-605-03-EC.pdf>;  
<http://www.calpoly.edu/~acadsen/resolutions/2002-2003/AS-598-03-TC.pdf>;  
[http://asi.calpoly.edu/government/documents/Resolution04-03\\_Sustainability\\_and\\_Future\\_Campus\\_Developme..pdf](http://asi.calpoly.edu/government/documents/Resolution04-03_Sustainability_and_Future_Campus_Developme..pdf)) and

- WHEREAS: energy costs in California are projected to increase significantly in the next decade and such increases are estimated to take a greater percentage of the CSU's operating budget, reducing available funds for other essential academic needs and services which may jeopardize the institution's ability to provide quality education in a healthy environment for future CSU students, and (<http://www.calstate.edu/CPDC/Executive/PolEnergyCons.pdf>); and
- WHEREAS: current environmental, economic, and energy circumstances require direct, immediate action to mitigate and prevent further economic, environmental and energy crises in the State of California and with the costs of petroleum products and fossil fuels increasing annually, it would be most beneficial to begin investing in alternative electricity production, including but not limited to solar, wind, geo-thermal, and biomass as soon as possible (<http://www.turn.org/turnarticles/greenmatters.htm>), therefore be it
- RESOLVED: ASI of Cal Poly, SLO urges the CSU Board of Trustees to collaborate with member institutions and their respective faculty, staff, and students to develop an acceptable system wide sustainability policy stating that all new and remodeled facilities be designed following the USGBC's LEED Silver certification guidelines, and furthermore be it
- RESOLVED: ASI of Cal Poly expresses complete support for the CSSA's recent Resolution in Support of a CSU Sustainability Policy, and furthermore be it
- RESOLVED: this policy should be developed in consultation with faculty and student opinions acquired through a series of public open forums conducted at member institutions and facilitated through the CSSA, each respective ASI, and reported to administrative offices in coordination with the CSU Board of Trustees, to ensure that all citizens involved with and affected by the policies and decisions of the CSU have an adequate opportunity to express their concerns regarding the issue, and furthermore be it
- RESOLVED: this policy should state that complete life-cycle cost and energy analysis to be included with the Environmental Impact Report prior to any project approval by the CSU Board of Trustees, and furthermore be it
- RESOLVED: this policy should state an emphasis on sustainable, energy efficient methods of transportation as a means of reducing the demand for the use of personal automobiles on, and to and from CSU campuses, and should encourage all new purchases of internal combustion engine vehicles be equipped to operate on bio-diesel fuel, and furthermore be it
- RESOLVED: this policy should be aligned with the stated goals and objectives of the US Green Building Council's LEED certification program, the Talloires Declaration, and consider the results of 'The Costs and Financial Benefits of Green Buildings' submitted to the California Sustainable Building Task Force in Oct. 2003, and ([www.usgbc.org](http://www.usgbc.org), <http://www.usgbc.org/Docs/News/News477.pdf>), and furthermore be it
- RESOLVED: a plan of action for development of this policy should be publicly released for open review and revision before the end of the 2003-04 academic year and should include but not be limited to: A timetable of public meetings and forums at CSU institutions to begin dialogue between students, faculty, and the appropriate committee regarding the policy, a series of intermediate deadlines for review and revision, a deadline for completion, a comprehensive list of baseline standards for the policy, and an official statement from the CSU

Board of Trustees stating long term commitment to completing and implementing a sustainability policy in a timely manner, and furthermore be it

RESOLVED: each campus, prior to developing a sustainability policy, should compile a report regarding the current status of its operations regarding energy consumption and efficiency for the purpose of defining areas of poor performance to be improved and to create an open public record of the status of energy efficiency on CSU campuses that will serve to inform the public, the state legislation, and other campuses about the strengths and weaknesses of CSU energy policies, and

RESOLVED: each campus' unique policy should set short-term and long-term goals including but not limited to: Utilizing passive solar energy and technology, improving indoor air quality, promoting conservation of energy and resources, increasing the recycling of solid waste and grey water, implementing waste water treatment and processing systems, defining all possible ways of recycling waste generated on CSU campuses into energy or food for other industrial or biological systems contained within the campus, minimizing the amount of landfill waste, improving the energy efficiency of transportation systems, increasing the percentage of renewable energy purchased for consumption within the CSU system, to a total of 25% by 2014 and 50% by 2024, half of which is to be produced within the CSU system, increasing the amount of renewable energy produced within the CSU system including bio-diesel, solar, wind, and geo-thermal, to a total of 12.5% by 2014 and 25% by 2024, increasing the amount of research and development of renewable energy sources, optimizing the energy efficiency of all new building projects and remodels following the USGBC's LEED certification guidelines, and furthermore be it

RESOLVED: this policy should be the first step in a long term plan of integrating the principles of sustainability into all areas of university policy for the purpose of ensuring that all CSU campuses are as energy and cost efficient as possible while creating a minimal impact on the natural environment.

CERTIFIED as true  
and correct copy, in witness  
thereof, I have set my hand and  
seal of the Associated Students, Inc.,  
this 11th day of **February, 2004.**

ADOPTED at the regular meeting of  
Board of Directors by **unanimous  
vote on February 11, 2004.**

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Secretary, ASI Board of Directors

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Chair, ASI Board of Directors

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ASI President

Sponsored by: **Tylor Middlestadt**, Board of Director, College of Architecture and Environmental Design