

Academic Priorities of the Faculty Senate, 2008-2009

In this document, the Senate expresses its statement of academic priorities in the context of the State mandated 2008 -2010 budget cuts.

The Faculty Senate believes the standing instructional faculty (tenured, probationary and restricted) is mission essential to the quality of education we offer our students. Accordingly, protection of CNU's instructional faculty is our guiding principle.

We seek to assure CNU's instructional faculty is able to continue to provide a world-class undergraduate experience for our students. This first-rate educational experience is founded upon a university structure conducive to teaching and scholarship.

To that end,

We seek to preserve and protect long-term priorities, goals and planning at CNU. We seek to protect work and programs, which if suspended cause immediate and enduring harm to instructional faculty.

We urge that any budget cuts should not delay student graduation or eliminate existing academic programs.

We urge the University to follow policies and procedures as articulated in the University Handbook. The Senate expects to continue to "exercise the authority of the Instructional faculty with respect to policy on academic matters and the professional affairs of faculty" throughout any crisis of budget (Faculty Handbook, p. 154).

The following constitute the Academic Priorities of the 2008-2009 Faculty Senate:

For current faculty, protect and maintain

- 1) All current faculty and faculty lines (i.e., tenured, probationary and restricted)
- 2) Current teaching loads: Keep
 - a. 4-4 faculty at 4-4 as scheduled
 - b. 4-3 faculty at 4-3 as scheduled
 - c. existing service releases
- 3) Scheduled movement to the 4/3 load for all senior faculty in 2010.
- 4) Current and future Dean's Office Grants and Faculty Development Grants
- 5) Faculty resources: equipment related to teaching/learning, travel for junior faculty, travel for senior faculty, sabbaticals, 2% raise

In hiring new faculty,

- 1) Continue to hire according to the 6-year plan, adding 10 new faculty annually
- 2) Bring in new faculty at 4/3 load (not 3/3)