

***University of California Academic Senate\****  
Office of the Chair and Vice Chair  
1111 Franklin Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94607

***Henry C. Powell, Chair***  
[Henry.Powell@ucop.edu](mailto:Henry.Powell@ucop.edu)  
(510) 987-0711

***Daniel L. Simmons, Vice Chair***  
[Daniel.Simmons@ucop.edu](mailto:Daniel.Simmons@ucop.edu)  
(510) 987-9303

***Press Release***  
January 6, 2010

Today Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger proposed a California Constitutional amendment to provide California's four year institutions of public higher education with funding equivalent to ten percent of the State budget. As the chair and vice chair of the University of California Academic Senate we are intimately familiar with the budgetary travails of higher education. As individuals, and speaking only for ourselves, we whole heartedly endorse the Governor's proposal. The proposal would bring much needed stability to the University of California and the California State University. In addition, the proposal reflects an investment in the future of the State of California and in generations of its students.

California's system of public higher education provides the innovative economic engine that powers California's transformational economy and provides California with her educated workforce. California's system of public higher education is the envy of the world. Yet, in the past several years, public higher education has suffered serious decline in its funding. The percentage of young Californian's attending college as plummeted. California desperately needs to reset its priorities so that the State can produce its own workforce for a knowledge based economy where prosperity is increasingly linked to educational attainment. The Governor's proposal will help reorient the State's budget priorities to protect the future of all of its citizens.

---

\*This letterhead is used by the Chair and Vice Chair of the Academic Senate for personal correspondence that does not reflect official positions of the Academic Senate or the University of California.