



## CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, STANISLAUS

2008 Student Affairs Assessment Project

### CAS EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## *Disability Resource Services*

### **Scope of Review**

The scope of this review was to assess the department of Disability Resource Services (DRS).

### **Mission**

The mission of Disability Resource Services is to provide effective accommodations and support services to assist students with disabilities in actively participating in all aspects of the University's programs and services, and to obtain their educational and professional goals.

### **Assessment Summary**

I. The DRS program was evaluated by using the criteria established by the Council for The Advancement of Standards (CAS) in Higher Education. The Internal Review Team identified the types of documentary evidence that would need to be compiled, and reviewed the criteria and evidence collectively, and then assigned a numerical value after consensus was reached for each item. Next, the External Review Team completed an independent review of the CAS instrument and the documentary evidence, and then provided a written review of their findings.

#### *II. Identified strengths and weaknesses.*

##### Strengths:

- Leadership – Program leadership has provided clear direction and support in meeting the needs of students with disabilities.
- Organization and Management – The program is defined by staff that have a clear definition of their roles and duties; established policies and procedures that direct students in accessing services and accommodations; and physical space to provide services.
- Campus and External Relations – The program has established and maintained effective relations with relevant campus and external individuals and agencies; and program staff participate in campus-wide committees.
- Diversity – The DRS staff provide an accepting and helpful attitude to each student seeking assistance; each student's situation is considered on an individual basis, with the student providing input regarding what type of assistance will be most helpful to them.

##### Weaknesses:

- Program (Student Learning and Development Outcomes) – Additional learning goals and developmental outcomes, as well as opportunities for students to achieve the identified outcomes, need to be identified and defined.
- Human Resources – The program lacks an adaptive technology position which would coordinate the purchase, maintaining and facilitation of adaptive technology needs for students with disabilities.
- Financial Resources – The program lacks consistent and adequate funding to cover mandatory services for students with disabilities.

### **Priorities for the Program**

1. DRS will identify and more clearly define additional learning goals and developmental outcomes, and create opportunities for students to achieve the identified outcomes.
2. DRS will look for creative ways to provide and meet the adaptive technology needs of our students until able to hire an adaptive technology coordinator.
3. DRS will look for grants and creative partnerships to provide mandatory services for students with disabilities.