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RICHARD P. WEST
SENIOR VICE CHANCELLOR, BUSINESS AND FINANCE

March 25, 1997

The Honorable Mike Thompson
Budget Conference Committee
State Capitol, Room 3056
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Senator Thompson:

Chancellor Munitz has asked me to respond to your inquiry regarding database services used by CSU faculty in social science instruction and research. As I understand it, a communication from a member of the chancellor's staff has come to your attention prompting concern about the continuing commitment of this office to pay for these services, as agreed to in discussions about the CSU 1995-96 Budget.

In his June 15, 1995, letter, a copy of which is attached, Chancellor Munitz assured you that access to the data services in question would be funded centrally "until they are no longer available" or until faculty "determine they are no longer of sufficient value to merit continuation." Subscriptions for 1995/96 and 1996/97 have been paid centrally. Subscriptions for 1997/98 and thereafter will be paid centrally as well so long as the the information is useful for university classes and research.

I regret any confusion relative to this issue. I hope this letter will provide the clarification you seek.

Sine -rely

Richard P. West
Senior Vice Chancellor
Business and Finance

Enclosure

cc: Patrick Lenz
Barry Munitz
Thomas W. West
Karen L. Yelverton