

**RESOLUTION
ACADEMIC SENATE
YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY
MAY 2, 2001**

Whereas, the Academic Senate of Youngstown State University recognizes that Ohio ranks 40th in the nation in support for higher education,

Whereas, the Academic Senate of Youngstown State University recognizes further that Ohio's relatively low level of support for public higher education has caused student fees in Ohio to rise to 10th in the nation,

Whereas, the Academic Senate of Youngstown State University recognizes that Ohio ranks 39th in the nation in the percentage of residents who possess a baccalaureate or higher degree,

Whereas, the Academic Senate of Youngstown State University recognizes that Ohio ranks 31st in the nation in the percentage of high school graduates who enroll in college after their graduation from high school,

Whereas, the Academic Senate of Youngstown State University recognizes that Ohio ranks 35th in the nation in investment for research and development in the academic sector,

Whereas, the Academic Senate of Youngstown State University recognizes that the continuing decline in average salaries in Ohio has reached the point where the gap between average salaries in Ohio and the nation now exceeds \$1,437 per capita and is expected to result in a loss of earnings by Ohioans by 2003 of more than \$30 billion, and

Whereas, the Academic Senate of Youngstown State University recognizes that the future of Ohio's economy is directly linked to the educational qualifications of Ohio's citizens and Ohio's investment in research and development,

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the Academic Senate of Youngstown State University, does hereby:

1. Urge Governor Taft and the members of the Ohio General Assembly to fund higher education at a level that improves access to higher education, reduces the reliance on student fees, and assures that Ohio will be a major factor in the new information and technology economy of the Twenty-First Century, and
2. Recommend that the Governor and the Ohio General Assembly establish a Special Commission on Higher Education Funding in Ohio no later than September 1, 2001, with representatives appointed in equal numbers by the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate, and the Chairperson of the Ohio Board of Regents, with the mission to develop a plan to fund higher education in Ohio that will reverse the trends cited above and to present this plan no later than March 1, 2002, to the Governor, the Ohio General Assembly, the Ohio Board of Regents, and the public.

The Secretary of the Senate is hereby requested to distribute copies of this Resolution to all appropriate parties.

Unanimously approved by the Academic Senate on May 2, 2001