



San José State
UNIVERSITY

A campus of The California State University

Office of the Academic Senate • One Washington Square • San Jose, California 95192-0024 • 408-924-2440 • Fax: 408-924-2451

SS-F00-3

At its meeting of August 28, 2000, the SJSU Executive Committee, acting as the Academic Senate (by-law 3.3b) passed the following Sense of the Senate Resolution presented by Annette Nellen for the.

**SENSE OF THE SENATE RESOLUTION
DECLARING A “UNIVERSITY HERITAGE DAY” TO BE CELEBRATED ON
OCTOBER 20**

Whereas: SJSU has a rich history tied to California’s history, as well as that of the City of San Jose and the educational system of California. The history of San José State began in San Francisco in 1857 with a school for training teachers - Minns’ Evening Normal School. This school became the California Normal School, created by the California legislature in 1862. In subsequent years, several cities attempted to get the School to relocate and San José was selected by the California legislature in 1870.

Whereas: On October 20, 1870, the cornerstone of the first California State Normal School was laid in Washington Square in a ceremony celebrated by students and community members and leaders of the City of San Jose and State of California. Over 3000 people attended the festivities that began with a parade from City Hall up First Street to San Antonio Street and then east to Washington Square. A time capsule containing such items as a copy of the California school laws, a normal school diploma, a local paper, and a copy of the San José city charter, was placed beneath the cornerstone. State Superintendent of Public Instruction O.P. Fitzgerald delivered a speech stating: “The laying of this cornerstone symbolizes the work which we of this generation are doing. We are laying the foundations of a new State. We are laying the foundations of an educational system. We must be careful to lay them properly, for the whole superstructure will conform to the character of its foundations. The foundation plan of our system of popular education must be broad, embracing the principles of justice and right, giving equal privileges to all classes of citizens.”

Whereas: On October 20, 2000, another historic event will occur that continues to bind the university and the surrounding community together when the cornerstone will be laid for the San José State University-City of San José Joint Library.

Whereas: A celebration of SJSU’s history presents an opportunity for the broad campus and surrounding community to come together to celebrate the past and how it shaped the campus and the community and to celebrate the opportunities of the future.

Resolved: That the SJSU Academic Senate encourages the President’s Office, Associated Students, the SJSU History Department and the Campus Community to join with the SJSU Academic Senate in the celebration of *University Heritage Day* on October 20, 2000.

