

**Resolution:** **Faculty Support for Continuing the Student-Initiated Construction of a New Facility to House the K-State Center for Child Development**

**BY:** **The Faculty Senate**

**WHEREAS,** The Faculty Affairs Committee of Faculty Senate has reviewed information presented by Debra Ring, the K-State Center for Child Development (KSCCD) director, Dr. Melissa Bopp, the Faculty Senate representative to the KSCCD Advisory Board and Dr. Michelle Bemiller, current Vice President of the KSCCD Advisory Board.

**WHEREAS,** The current facility is unsafe. In 2006, the current facility was rated as not meeting standards established by the National Health and Safety Performance Standards. The KSCCD was determined to be “operating in a sub-standard and unsafe physical facility.”

**WHEREAS,** Due to the condition and structure of the current facility, two major funding streams of the KSCCD will be lost if construction is delayed further; and, the KSCCD’s will not be able to be accredited in the current facility. The current funding streams were granted contingent on the KSCCD becoming accredited within the next two years. Hence, accreditation is only possible with the construction of the new facility.

**WHEREAS,** There is a waiting list consisting of at least 70 students and 23 faculty indicating the current facility does not have the capacity to meet the needs of our students and faculty.

**WHEREAS,** There is a grave security risk as the current facility is unable to prevent an unlawful entrance, which would place the children and teachers in harm’s way unnecessarily. This is paramount given recent violent incidents that have occurred on college campuses in the United States. In addition, the center is not equipped with a safe room to protect children during natural disasters. This is paramount given the recent tornado that struck the university campus last year.

**WHEREAS,** The Strategic Plan for Kansas State University, which was recently endorsed by Faculty Senate, emphasizes that faculty recruitment and retention is critically important. The availability of childcare is now becoming “a cost of doing business” to recruit and retain faculty members (especially those at the level of Assistant Professor). Thus, continuing the construction of the new facility to house the KSCCD is a priority of the current Strategic Plan.

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

- Section 1.     Construction of Facility. The construction process for the new facility to house the KSCCD must persist in FY09 and continue until the building is complete and deemed able to serve its capacity.
- Section 2.     Effective Date. This resolution shall take effect from and after its date of adoption.

The vote to adopt this resolution was **PASSED and APPROVED** by the Faculty Senate at Kansas State University this the 14th day of April, 2009.

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Fred J. Fairchild, President