**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF STUDENT DATA PRIVACY**

**Council of Library Deans**

**California State University**

**April 6, 2017**

**WHEREAS:**

1. Campuses and libraries in the California State University system need and want data to demonstrate our value in regard to student success; and
2. Libraries have traditionally used “soft” data (such as qualitative data from surveys) and inputs/outputs to demonstrate value. It is becoming increasing clear that those methods by themselves will not demonstrate that campus libraries contribute to student success; and
3. More recently, many libraries have suggested trying to find a statistically significant correlation between the use of library resources and student success; and
4. Another method that libraries have suggested is the search for a statistically significant correlation between information literacy instruction and student success; and
5. One of the core values of librarianship is privacy, and some have questioned if collecting, retaining, and analyzing student data compromises our commitment to privacy; and
6. These questions are especially relevant today when there is a deep mistrust of the federal government, especially on the part of immigrants. Many of our students are immigrants or children of immigrants, whether documented or undocumented.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council of Library Deans (COLD) of the California State University affirms the crucial importance of privacy in the collection and retention of student data.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Council of Library Deans (COLD) of the California State University should communicate the importance of student data privacy to library staff and faculty, to students, and to campus administration, staff, and faculty, especially those involved in student data collection, retention, and analysis.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Council of Library Deans (COLD) of the California State University should encourage the creation of a publicly posted library policy on patron privacy in all CSU libraries, both online and in the physical environment.