**Division of Student Affairs**

**Disability Resource Center**

**Budget Request**

**Emergency Evacuation Chairs for CSU Buildings: Request for Funding $ 18,920.00**

**In order to provide for safe evacuation of individuals on campus who have disabilities that affect mobility, as well as those who may become injured in an emergency, specialized evacuation chairs are needed for multi-story buildings. The estimated cost of compliance is $18,920.00.**

1. Currently, many buildings on the main campus and at other educational sites are not equipped with any means for emergency evacuation of individuals who have mobility impairment that precludes stair use. This may include people with disabilities as well as those who become injured during an emergency.

Recent court decisions under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) support the need for a clear emergency evacuation plan. The safest and most efficient manner to evacuate individuals with mobility impairments is by the use of a specialized evacuation chair and should be provided for in our plan. Carrying individuals down stairs to safety buildings has been shown to have significant risks to both rescuers and the individual being carried. Evacuation chairs are recommended.

All buildings need a sufficient number of evacuation chairs on upper floors for safety and to comply with an acceptable evacuation plan. Some SCU buildings currently have no chairs and need to be properly equipped.

1. A survey of existing chairs was made to determine location of existing evacuation chairs and buildings lacking adequate equipment. The following chart indicates buildings with no chairs and the recommended number needed.

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| **Building** | **Evacuation Chairs Needed** | **Cost** |
| Laker Hall (Residence Hall) | 6  | $10,320.00 |
| Clayton Hall (formerly Technology.) | 1 | $1720.00 |
| Student Activities Bldg. | 1 | $1720.00 |
| College of Business | 1 | $1720.00 |
| Fayette Site | 1 | $1720.00 |
| CSU East (Apts.) | 1 | $1720.00 |
| **Total Needed**  | **11** | **$18,920.00** |

1. The current Disability Resource Center budget was allocated for previously identified departmental operating expenses and auxiliary aids for students with disabilities. This additional campus-wide safety need cannot be met by using departmental financial resources.
2. There are approximately 40 students with mobility impairments registered with the DRC. This does not include faculty, staff, visitors or students who are not registered with the DRC, and is therefore a significant underestimate of people with disabilities. In addition, any person who is injured on our campuses could be served by having evacuation chairs available.
3. If funds are not available and emergency evacuation is hampered, serious injury or death could result. The university could also be deemed negligent. All negative outcomes have potentially serious legal, financial and image ramifications.