

**COUNCIL OF SENATE CHAIRS
OF
THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY**

**Shared Governance Between California State University (CSU) Administrators and
Council of Senate Chairs**

- WHEREAS, Shared governance is the practice of working with others to arrive at good decisions; and
- WHEREAS, The cornerstone of shared governance is collegiality between all persons responsible for the system over which they govern; and
- WHEREAS, The purpose of the system over which The Office of the Chancellor, California State University Campus Administrators, and California State University faculty govern concerns quality of higher education; and
- WHEREAS, Collegial shared governance requires consultative practices at all stages that allow for all governing voices to be heard in the shared interest of providing the best quality of education, given the resources whether they are scarce or plenty; and
- WHEREAS, Practices that fail to consider the concerns or views from any of these three parties, namely The Office of the Chancellor, California State University Campus Administrators, and California State University faculty, who together make up the California State University shared governance body, should not count as successful instances of shared governance; and
- WHEREAS, The Council of Senate Chairs desires much greater consistency and consideration across the campuses from California State University Administrations in their consultations with faculty about budget issues; and
- WHEREAS, The Council of Senate Chairs desires much greater consistency and consideration from The Office of the Chancellor in its consultations with faculty about budget issues; and
- WHEREAS, AS-2491-00 resolves that it is important that the Academic Senate of the California State University periodically reaffirm the statement on collegiality adopted by the Academic Senate CSU and the CSU Board of Trustees in 1985, known as the “Report of the Board of Trustees”;
- WHEREAS, The Council of Senate Chairs desires a reaffirmation from California State University Administrators and The Office of the Chancellor of the principles of shared governance; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED: That the 2009-2010 Council of Senate Chairs hereby reaffirms its commitment to the principles of shared governance as they are set out in the Report of the Board of Trustees; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the 2009-2010 Council of Senate Chairs hereby reaffirms its commitment to the statement on collegiality adopted by the Academic Senate CSU and the CSU Board of Trustees in 1985; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the 2009-2010 Council of Senate Chairs is prepared to work with California State University Administrations and The Office of the Chancellor on addressing budgetary issues in the interest of maintaining quality higher education and in the spirit of shared governance.

APPROVED – July 20, 2009

ACADEMIC SENATE
of
THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY

Item 4

AS-2491-00/Floor (Highsmith, D. Hood)
March 9-10, 2000

Statement on Collegiality

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of the California State University reaffirm the statement on collegiality adopted by the Academic Senate CSU and the CSU Board of Trustees in 1985, known as "Report of the Board of Trustees' Ad Hoc Committee on Governance, Collegiality, and Responsibility in the California State University."

RATIONALE: Both the Academic Senate CSU and CSU Board of Trustees from time-to time should reaffirm the principles of collegial and shared university governance.

APPROVED – May 4-5, 2000

Report of the Board of Trustees' Ad Hoc Committee on Governance, Collegiality, and Responsibility in the California State University

Academic governance is a complex web of decision-making and responsibility that translates academic goals and values into university policy or action. Authority in the modern public university derives from two quite different sources: (a) from the power vested by law and administrative code in governing boards and administrators and (b) from the knowledge of the subject matter and from the pedagogic expertise of the faculty.

Collegiality consists of a shared decision-making process and a set of values which regard the members of the various university constituencies as essential for the success of the academic enterprise. It incorporates mutual respect for similarities and for differences—in background, expertise, judgments and assigned responsibilities—and involves mutual trust based on experience.

Collegial governance allows the academic community to work together to find the best answers to issues facing the university. Collegial governance assigns primary responsibility to the faculty for the educational functions of the institution in accordance with basic policy as determined by the Board of Trustees. This includes admission and degree requirements, the curriculum and methods of teaching, academic and professional standards, and the conduct of creative and scholarly activities. Collegiality rests on a network of interlinked procedures jointly devised, whose aim is to assure the opportunity for timely advice pertinent to decisions about curricular and academic personnel matters.

The governing board, through its administrative officers, makes sure that there is continual consultation with appropriate faculty representatives on these matters. Faculty recommendations are normally accepted, except in rare instances and for compelling reasons. The collegial process also recognizes the value of participation by the faculty in budgetary matters, particularly those directly affecting the areas for which the faculty has primary responsibility.

Central to collegiality and shared decision-making is respect for differing opinions and points of view, which welcomes diversity and actively sponsors its opinions. The collegium must be the last public bastion of respect for individuals, whether they are members of the faculty, students, staff, alumni, administration or Board of Trustees.

The Board of Trustees wishes to maintain the statewide Academic Senate and campus senates/ councils separate and apart from collective bargaining. It is the intention of the Board to maintain its efforts to promote collegiality and to support the continuing efforts of the Academic Senate to preserve collegiality in the CSU.

(Adopted by the Board of Trustees of the California State University, September 1985.)