



STATEMENT ON SHARED GOVERNANCE AND CONSULTATION AT CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, CHICO

INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES OF EXCELLENCE ARE A HALLMARK OF CSU, CHICO, FOUNDED ON PRINCIPLES OF SHARED GOVERNANCE AND THE BELIEF THAT TOGETHER, WE ARE STRONGER. EMBRACING THE PRECEPTS OF HIGHER EDUCATION EMPLOYER-EMPLOYEE RELATIONS ACT¹ AND IN THE SPIRIT OF PROGRESSIVE IDEALS, WE AT CHICO STATE DEFINE SHARED GOVERNANCE AS A PROCESS OF CONSULTATION TOWARD ACHIEVING JOINT DECISION-MAKING BETWEEN FACULTY, STAFF, STUDENTS, AND ADMINISTRATORS.

CONSULTATION

CONSULTATION IS THE KEY COMPONENT OF EFFECTIVE SHARED GOVERNANCE. CONSULTATION BETWEEN THE FACULTY, STAFF, STUDENTS, AND THE ADMINISTRATION WITHIN THIS CONTEXT IS DEFINED AS A MUTUAL EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION, IDEAS, OPINIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM INITIAL FORMULATION TO FINAL DETERMINATION OF POLICY AND PROCEDURES AFFECTING THE ACADEMIC INSTITUTION. CONSULTATION SHALL TAKE PLACE IN A TIMELY MANNER WITH AN UNDERSTANDING THAT WE ARE ROOTED IN GOOD FAITH, WHICH SUSTAINS OUR INTEGRITY OF PROCESS. ON RARE OCCASIONS WHEN THE ADMINISTRATION IS UNABLE TO SEEK CONSULTATION, REASONS FOR DOING SO SHOULD BE COMMUNICATED IN DETAIL.

EFFECTIVE, MEANINGFUL CONSULTATION MUST BE COMMITTED TO AND CHARACTERIZED BY OPENNESS AND TRANSPARENCY, CIVILITY AND RESPECTFUL DIALOGUE, MUTUAL RESPONSIBILITY, EVIDENCE-BASED PROBLEM-SOLVING, AND A COMMITMENT TO BEING INFORMED ABOUT AND PREPARED TO DISCUSS RELEVANT ISSUES. ABOVE ALL ELSE, A MUTUAL COMMITMENT TO AND RESPECT FOR THE PROCESS MUST BE OBSERVED IF CONSULTATION IN THE CONTEXT OF SHARED GOVERNANCE IS TO BE SUCCESSFUL.

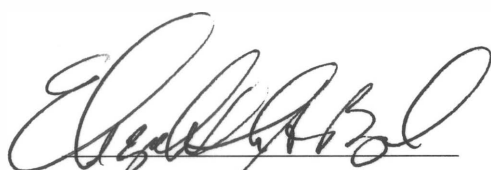
DEFINING ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

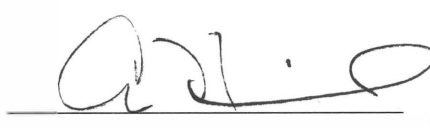
AT CSU, CHICO, THE ACADEMIC SENATE IS THE PRIMARY CONSULTATIVE BODY "TO FORMULATE, RECOMMEND, REVIEW, AND REVISE ALL ACADEMIC, PERSONNEL, AND PROFESSIONAL POLICIES, INCLUDING FISCAL POLICIES RELATED THERETO, BROADLY AND LIBERALLY DEFINED²." CONSULTATION BETWEEN THE ACADEMIC SENATE AND THE ADMINISTRATION REGARDING MATTERS THAT AFFECT THE EDUCATIONAL MISSION IS ACHIEVED PRIMARILY THROUGH FACULTY, STAFF, STUDENT, AND ADMINISTRATOR REPRESENTATION ON THE ACADEMIC SENATE STANDING COMMITTEES AND THE MANY PERMANENT AND AD HOC COMMITTEES CREATED BY THE PRESIDENT, CABINET, AND ACADEMIC SENATE OFFICERS.

AN EFFECTIVE SYSTEM OF SHARED GOVERNANCE WITHIN A UNIVERSITY RECOGNIZES THAT THE PRESIDENT ULTIMATELY HAS AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR DECISIONS AFFECTING THE INSTITUTION.^{3,4} THE SAME SYSTEM RECOGNIZES THE RESPONSIBILITY OF FACULTY, STAFF, STUDENTS, AND ADMINISTRATORS TO BE ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN THE PROCESS. FURTHERMORE, THAT SHARED GOVERNANCE BENEFITS FROM A PROCESS OF JOINT DECISION-MAKING, CONSULTATION, AND A SPIRIT OF COLLEGIALLY WHEREIN MUTUAL RESPECT AND MUTUAL RESPONSIBILITY ARE ESSENTIAL. FROM TIME TO TIME IT MAY BE PRUDENT TO REVIEW, ACKNOWLEDGE, AND RECOMMIT TO THESE VALUES.

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED ON THE ELEVENTH DAY OF MAY, 2017 AND IN THE SPIRIT OF VALUES THAT UNITE US, THAT "...WE ARE 'ONE UNIVERSITY' WHERE COLLABORATION, MUTUAL SUPPORT AND TRUST, AND COMMON GOALS DEFINE OUR WORK TOGETHER AND THE SPIRIT OF ITS ENGAGEMENT"⁵, AND HEREBY PLEDGE OUR COMMITMENT TO SHARED GOVERNANCE AND RECOGNIZE IT IS ESSENTIAL TO FULFILLING THE EDUCATIONAL MISSION OF OUR INSTITUTION.

TOGETHER, WE WILL TRANSFORM TOMORROW.


ELIZABETH "BETSY" A. BOYD
CHAIR
ACADEMIC SENATE


ANNETTE HEILESEN
CHAIR
STAFF COUNCIL


MICHAEL C. PRATT
PRESIDENT
ASSOCIATED STUDENTS


GAYLE E. HUTCHINSON
PRESIDENT
CSU, CHICO

¹ HIGHER EDUCATION EMPLOYER-EMPLOYEE RELATIONS ACT (HEERA), INDEX OF STATUTES, CHAPTER 12, ARTICLE 1, SECTION 3561 (<https://www.perb.ca.gov/LAWS/HEERA.aspx>)

² CONSTITUTION OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE OF CSU, CHICO. ARTICLE II, SECTION 2.1. (http://www.csuchico.edu/fs/GUIDELINES/ACAD_SENATE_CONSTITUTION.shtml)

³ STANDING ORDERS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, CHAPTER III, SECTIONS 1, 2, 4(e).

⁴ "HIGHER EDUCATION EMPLOYER-EMPLOYEE RELATIONS ACT (HEERA)" IN PRINCIPLES AND POLICIES; PAPERS OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE, THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, P. 22-24. (www.calstate.edu/AcadSen/Records/Reports/pp.pdf)

⁵ UPDATING CSU, CHICO'S STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE FUTURE, MAY 2016, OUR VALUES, PG 6. (http://www.csuchico.edu/prs/campus_documents/strategic_plan_2016.pdf)