



23 April 2010

Karl Krapek, Chairman  
CSUS Board of Trustees  
System Office  
39 Woodland Street  
Hartford, CT 06105-2337

Dear Mr. Krapek,

Thank you for your letter dated 23 March 2010. The CCSU Faculty Senate is pleased to learn from your letter that you agree with us that decisions regarding “who is hired to be the Chancellor or president and whether they are retained remains the exclusive determination of the Board, with input from other parties.” Like you, the CCSU Senate understands that hiring and firing of CSU university presidents is the prerogative of the full Board. In fact, we went on record in our February resolution in order to demonstrate our commitment to this principle. As was made clear in the first point of our resolution dated 10 February 2010, we concur with you that the “full Board shall initiate and be fully involved in the decision of non-continuation of university Presidents.”

This mutual desideratum is not, however, the Board’s current policy. Right now, section of 10.2 of the human resources policy states that CSU presidents

may be non-continued by the Chancellor without cause or explanation and without recourse to the procedures of Article 10. Prior to notifying the President of his/her non-continuation, the Chancellor shall notify the Chairman of the Board of his/her intended action and shall receive the Chairman’s concurrence of said action.

This ability of the Chancellor and the Chairman of the Board to initiate a non-continuation without input from the rest of the Board—not to mention “other parties”—troubles the CCSU Faculty Senate.

The Senate believes that such decisions are so important that they should not be made in the dark or concentrated in the hands of one or two people, as the current policy allows. And for this reason, we ask that the Board’s written policy be reverted to reflect the values shared by the CCSU Senate and CSU BOT alike, that important decisions not be made without a significant degree of transparency and input from the full board and other parties.

The CCSU Faculty Senate also remains concerned that your letter did not address the second point of our resolution, that “the BOT ensure the independence of the four

universities by resisting further efforts to centralize decision making in the System Office." Perhaps your omission was an oversight. If so, the Senate would appreciate a statement from the Board regarding its position on this point. If the omission was not a simple oversight, then we respectfully request more information regarding the Board's plans to safeguard the independence of each of the four universities composing the CSU System.

Sincerely,



Candace Barrington, President  
CCSU Faculty Senate

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