

Resolution on the proposed reorganization plan of the BOR of CSU and its President:

Whereas the Board of Regents and its President have recently proposed another major project without previous consultation of faculty, as contained in the email message from Pres. Ojakian on April 3, entitled “A Message from President Ojakian Regarding CSU Administrative Consolidation”, and further detailed in the attached “Students First” PowerPoint presentation;

Whereas in his message to CSU faculty the Board President indicated this was only a first step in projected further centralization of services and institutions, assuming insufficient cost savings from the current measures and proposed “give backs” demanded by the Governor;

Whereas the System Office, with well over a hundred employees, continues to consume tens of millions of dollars, and will likely grow even more as it assumes additional “local” functions previously the purview of its constituent institutions;

Whereas help is local, centralization of functions will remove needed staff from campuses, beginning with Human Resources, and potentially affecting other departments and even faculty in later phases, preventing them from working directly with students, faculty and campus administrators;

Whereas, in the wake of the failed “Transform 2020” project where millions of dollars were wasted on external consulting groups, the current project is yet another attempt to make a bureaucratic creation – the CSU – into a “system”, at the expense of the real systems – in particular, the colleges and universities such as CCSU –, thereby reducing our ability to carry out our teaching, research and community tasks;

Whereas the project was approved at the April 6 meeting of the BOR, just days after faculty were informed and without advanced copies of the approved resolution to the public, thereby severely limiting further scrutiny of the changes proposed for this summer;

Be it resolved that:

The CCSU Senate will not participate in any implementation of the proposed plan; opposes it as unfounded, nontransparent and undemocratic; and considers the plan an assault on the integrity and autonomy of the institutions of higher education forced to be a part of CSU;

The CCSU Senate votes non-confidence in the Board of Regents of CSU and its President, as it has done previously in the context of “Transform 2020”, and for the same reasons:

- Lack of prior consultation with faculty
- Centralization of needed local functions
- Unchecked growth of the “system” office
- Undemocratic procedures of approval
- Deleterious effect on constituent institutions

