Resolution on Shared Governance

Shared Governance Committee

Student Academic Senate

Whereas, The Students of California State University, Chico are the largest constituency group on campus;

Whereas, Shared Governance is defined as the set of practices under which university faculty, staff, and students participate in significant decisions concerning the operation of their institution;

Whereas, The Commission on Higher Education expects a climate of shared collegial governance in which all constituencies (such as faculty, administration, staff, students, and governing board members, as determined by each institution) involved in carrying out the institution’s mission and goals participate in the governance function in a manner appropriate to that institution;

Whereas, University committees, councils, and boards serve as the primary vehicle for the transmission of shared governance principles;

Whereas, Students are inadequately apprised of when and where committees meet by the respective Chairs, preventing their participation;

Whereas, No central authority currently exists for the maintenance and review of the university’s committees, councils, and boards;

Whereas, Current shared governance practices on campus do not equitably represent the various constituency groups;

Whereas, Transparency is inherent in shared governance and currently lacking on campus; and

Whereas, California State University, Chico is a public institution subject to various Open Meeting Acts which have not been enforced;

Therefore Be It Resolved, That the Academic Senate be urged to create a new Executive Memorandum on Shared Governance outlining the basic rules and responsibilities of each major constituency group on campus in regards to committees, councils, boards, and other venues of shared governance;

Resolved, That the completed Executive Memorandum be submitted for approval to the appropriate Administrator after proper consultation with every constituency group has been fulfilled;

Resolved, That the Academic Senate in conjunction with the Student Academic Senate and the Staff Council establish a taskforce comprised of their respective Chairs to review university committee issues and enforce minimum meeting standards outlined under the various Open Meeting Acts of California; and
Resolved, That this Resolution be distributed to the Office of the President, Office of the Provost, Academic Senate, Staff Council, Council of Academic Deans, and further distributed to any and all interested parties defined above as part of one or more constituency groups.