MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 9, 2019
TO: President Thomas A. Parham
    Provost Michael E. Spagna
FROM: Laura Talamante, Ph.D.
      Academic Senate Chair
RE: FPC 19-09 Resolution for the Establishment of Endowed Chairs or Professorships

I am formally transmitting the attached FPC 19-09 Resolution for the Establishment of Endowed Chairs or Professorships. After a second reading, the Academic Senate passed the resolution unanimously on May 8, 2019.

The resolution calls for policy guiding the selection of endowed chairs. It emphasize the shared nature and recommended processes for these decisions that include chairs, faculty, deans/appropriate administrators in working together and with Advancement to meet the donor’s wishes for such endowments. In addition to input from the Faculty Policy and Senate Executive Committees, we held a meeting to address concerns of the Political Science Department faculty and chair that included Dean LaPol, Chair David Dixon, and Professor Annie Whetmore to. Together we revised the resolution to everyone’s satisfaction before bringing it back to the Academic Senate for a second reading. With these details in mind, we recommend that any policy developed pay close attention to the language of the resolution, which was very carefully vetted to create recommendations sensitive to the needs of faculty, chairs, and deans/appropriate administrators in respect of shared governance.

If the resolution is accepted, please return a hard copy of the signed memo to the Academic Senate office for our records. Additionally, please forward the Academic Senate office a draft of the policy and once finalized the Academic Affairs link. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions regarding the resolution, its content, or the process for such resolutions.

Sincerely,

Laura Talamante, Ph. D
Chair, Academic Senate California State University, Dominguez Hills

Cc:
Deans
Associate Deans
Department Chairs and Coordinators
All Faculty.

Approved:  

Michael E. Spagna, Ph.D.
Provost and VP of Academic Affairs

Approved:  

Thomas A. Parham, Ph.D.
President
ResoluTED: The establishment and naming of endowed chairs will be consistent with CSU and CSUDH policies governing philanthropic gift endowments. The chair, tenured and tenure-track faculty of the academic area that will house the chair/professor shall first elect a committee, similar to a standard hiring committee, to describe and approve the position and its duties. If there are fewer than three eligible faculty in the department or academic unit, the appropriate administrator will establish a representative faculty committee. This is to be done in collaboration with university advancement to ensure specifications of the intent of the endowment will be met. The establishment of these positions after approval will be subject to minimum endowment amounts in effect at the time and each situation will be evaluated on its own merits; and

RESOLVED: Income generated from the endowment shall be used for purposes carefully consistent with the donor's wishes, done in collaboration with university advancement, the elected faculty committee within the housing academic area, and the dean/appropriate administrator. These purposes include but are not limited to, subsidizing or augmenting the institutional portion of the endowed chair/professor base salary; providing the endowed chair/professor assigned time or summer support; supporting clerical, administrative or research personnel; providing travel funds; and/or paying other costs to further the mission of the department, college and University, consistent with the donor's wishes; therefore be it further

RESOLVED: An endowed chair/professor position may be held by an existing faculty member at CSUDH, or be used to recruit a new faculty member. In the former case, the chair, tenured and tenure-track faculty shall make a recommendation to the appropriate administrator, and in the latter case, normal University procedures for faculty recruitment and hiring shall be followed; and be it further

RESOLVED: This resolution recognizes the obligation of the University to be the primary fund source for support of the University's core faculty positions. Therefore, an endowed chair position shall not be considered to be the same as a department chair or program coordinator position, and the duties of the endowed chair position shall not be those usually assigned to a department chair or program coordinator, unless otherwise specified by the individual(s) who gifted the monies for the endowed chair position. Therefore, the endowed chair monies shall not be used to pay for the normal release time, salary, or chair's stipend that a department chair (or program coordinator) receives for their normal duties as department chair or program coordinator, unless otherwise specified by the gift instrument; and be it further
RESOLVED: In good-faith consultation with a department faculty hiring or appointment committee, or with good-faith recognition of election results, the appointment as endowed chair or professor is made by the Dean or appropriate administrator, and with approval of the President or their designee. Such appointment shall be for specified periods, but may be made on a semester, academic-year, or twelve-month basis for an agreed-upon term, and in good-faith consultation with the department hiring or appointment committee. The appointment shall be made for up to two years. Subsequent appointments for the position shall follow the procedures above; and be it further

RESOLVED: Faculty appointed as Endowed Chairs/Professors shall be reviewed according to normal University procedures and criteria; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the ASCSUDH distribute this resolution to: President, Provost, Deans, Associate Deans, Department Chairs and Coordinators, and all Faculty.

RATIONALE:
The establishment of Endowed Chairs and Professorships through philanthropic gifts allows the University to recruit and retain outstanding faculty and promote academic excellence.

The university bestows such positions on faculty distinguished by wide recognition of their professional accomplishments in education, scholarship/creative activities, and/or service.

Approved by the Academic Senate on: May 8, 2019
Sent to the Provost’s Office for approval on: Click or tap to enter a date.
Approved on: Click or tap to enter a date.