



Academic Senate • 1000 E. Victoria • Carson, CA 90747 • WH-A420 • (310) 243-3312

**EXEC Resolution 17-18 Resolution Calling on the Board of Trustees for
Open Forums for CSUDH Presidential Candidate Finalists**

M/S/P 11/08/17

RESOLVED: That the ASCSUDH calls upon Chancellor White and the Board of Trustees to identify publicly all finalists and to schedule public campus visits to CSUDH for each of the finalists in the 2017-18 CSUDH Presidential Search; and be it further,

RESOLVED: That the Chair of the Trustees Committee for the Selection of the President (TCSP), Mr. Peter Taylor, and the members of the Advisory Committee to the Trustees Committee for the Selection of the President (ACTCSP) be invited to meet with the Academic Senate; and be it further,

RESOLVED: That the ASCSUDH calls upon Chancellor White and the Board of Trustees to exercise their option “to schedule campus visits”¹ for all presidential searches ongoing across the CSU system; and be it further,

RESOLVED: That the ASCSUDH reaffirms its support for ASCSUDH Executive Resolution 11-09, ASCSU Executive Resolution AS-3224-15/EX,² and the resolutions passed by the Academic Senates of twenty other CSU campuses opposing the elimination of campus visits for presidential searches, including the most recent and third resolution by CSUB³; and be it further,

RESOLVED: That the ASCSUDH urges Chancellor White and the Board of Trustees in the strongest possible terms to revise the Trustees Policy for the Selection of Presidents adopted in 2011 to restore public campus visits for all finalists in presidential searches in the CSU; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the ASCSUDH distribute this resolution to President Hagan, Provost Spagna, CSU Board of Trustees, CSU Chancellor White, all Trustees’ Committees convened for presidential searches in 2017-2018, the CSUDH ACTCSP, ASCSU, CSU campus Senate Chairs, CSUDH ASI Board of Directors, California State Student Association (CSSA), and Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association (ERFA).

RATIONALE

Prior to 2011 the identities of all finalists in presidential searches were publicly announced and candidates were required to complete public campus visits. In 2011, the Trustees amended the policy for presidential searches to make these steps optional. Since then the identities of finalists routinely have been withheld

¹ *Board of Trustees Policy for the Selection of Presidents*, 3.

² ASCSUDH Executive Resolution 11-09 <http://www4.csudh.edu/Assets/CSUDH-Sites/Academic-Senate/docs/documents/exec-11-09-presidential-candidates-campus-visits.pdf>; ASCSU Presidential Search Process in the California State University System: Announcement of Finalists and Visits to Campuses AS-3224-15/EX <https://www.calstate.edu/AcadSen/Records/Resolutions/2015-2016/documents/3234.pdf>.

³ CSUB Position Statement on Open Search for President and Call for Campus Community Engagement RES 171801. See also California State University, Bakersfield Academic Senate Open And Transparent CSU Presidential Searches RES 151601 http://www.csub.edu/senate/_files/151601%20Open%20and%20Transparent%20CSU%20Presidential%20Searches.pdf and California State University, Bakersfield Academic Senate 2011-2012 0001 CSU President Searches.

and public campus visits have ceased. Faculty across the CSU strongly opposed this policy change on the grounds that the process for selecting the presidents of public universities must be as open and transparent as possible. The ASCSU and twenty-one campus Senates declared the revised policy antithetical to the principles of shared governance and demanded the restoration of public campus visits by all finalists in CSU presidential searches. To this point, Chancellor White and the Board of Trustees have refused to respond to the faculty's call for the restoration of openness and transparency.

It is vitally necessary for Presidential finalists to visit CSUDH to interact with the campus constituents and to fully understand: 1) the unique strengths, challenges and composition of our University; 2) the significance of maintaining the positive momentum in the current development of our University; 3) and the importance of stability and continuity in CSUDH leadership to fulfill our Mission, Core Values, and Goals and best serve the community. It is also equally imperative for campus constituents to interact with presidential finalists and have an opportunity to get to know candidates, gauge their responses on key issues of shared governance, future vision for the campus, and overall fit for the campus and the communities we serve, and have a voice in the ranking of finalists.

The unique history of CSUDH and the community it was created to serve continues to hold great significance in our current Mission, Core Values, and Goals. Our commitment to serving local communities, especially underrepresented and non-traditional students is a source of pride. However, historically, the campus has been underfunded because of funding formulas that disadvantaged the very population we were created to serve. President Hagan, having served as Interim President at CSUDH, had the opportunity to learn first-hand our campus history and culture, which allowed him to grow into the role of President with strategies that champion CSUDH in the Chancellor's Office, State and Federal Government, and the local community.

CSUDH has suffered over decades from revolving administrative leadership and the discontinuities and additional costs thereof. We need presidential candidates that not only understand the importance of stability and continuity in leadership moving forward but make a commitment to it. An integral part of the interview process for finding the right fit for our University is that candidates meet with various campus constituents and demonstrate in person their commitment to our campus Mission, Core Values, and Goals. We seek a president who is committed to serving our campus over time and not as a short stop on the way to the next promotion.