November 5, 2018

To Our Campus Community:

It has been my pleasure to have been a part of the CSUN family since 1986, serving in many capacities, including being actively involved in student success, faculty governance, and serving on several Department, College, and University Search committees. In that time, CSUN has truly “risen” as a shining star, recognized locally, nationally, and internationally.

As stated on our website and evidenced in so many ways, “California State University, Northridge … [has a clear] … commitment to the educational and professional goals of students, and its extensive service to the community”.

Since our beginning in 1958, we have had just five Presidents, each committed to helping us grow. This stellar reputation doesn’t happen by accident; it takes strong and visionary leadership. Fortunately for all of us, we have continued to flourish, particularly with President Dianne Harrison. To name a few of our successes, we have:

- A strong reputation and visibility (e.g. Recognition in publications, and by community organizations, and national higher education associations)
- Improving graduation and retention rates
- A growth in significant giving from our alumni
- Better support for our most vulnerable students (e.g. Dream Center, Food Bank)

Of late, the Chancellor’s Office (CO) has been focusing on Executive Order (EO) 1100R and has asked all CSUs to do a thorough review – and provide feedback to the EO. When the CO asked for feedback on the idea, the academic administration and the Senate chose not to provide any information. We were the only campus to not give feedback, so when the final version came out, it did not include a Section F. Fortunately, President Harrison was able to successfully advocate for CSUN to be granted an exception to EO 1100R, thus allowing CSUN to retain Section F. However, with no regard to this significant change, the Senate chose to not participate in a discussion of how to implement EO1100R with section F included, thereby forcing the President and the Provost to implement what the CO’s office presented. To their credit, they again asked the Senate to consider options for implementation, which, Faculty Senate discussed at the last senate meeting after a vote of 38 to 18 to engage in such a discussion.

It seems most prudent now for the Senate to focus on the work of implementing EO1100R and to stop the misguided efforts by a few to orchestrate a vote of no confidence in President Harrison. It doesn’t make any sense. If there is any blame for the difficulties, it lies with the past academic administration and the Senate. I urge you to stop any move toward a vote of no confidence. Let us focus on the work of helping our students and CSUN rise ...

Sincerely, Terri Lisagor