

HSU ERFSA - Emeritus and Retired Faculty and Staff Association

President's Office
Humboldt State University
1 Harpst Street
Arcata, CA 95521

August 20, 2021

Dear CSU Board of Trustees, Chancellor Castro, President Jackson:

Members of the Coordinating Committee of the Emeritus and Retired Faculty and Staff Association of Humboldt State University (HSU) are highly supportive of the proposal to transition HSU to a Polytechnic University. The Polytechnic Prospectus prepared by the HSU administration, faculty and staff is an excellent plan for this transition. We encourage you to formally approve this plan that will provide important services to our students, our community and the state and beyond.

We are pleased that the proposed polytechnic campus will focus on the need to increase and further diversify student numbers. Given the ongoing changes in ethnic diversity in our state, country, it is critical that our students have the opportunity to learn from other students and, of course, from a diverse faculty and staff. HSU's success in becoming a Hispanic-Serving Institution in 2014, and the recipient of grants from the federal Department of Education has been and will be critical as the university evolves into a polytechnic campus.

We continue to be pleased that student support programs are excellent and developing at the university. The Place-Based Learning Communities, the Student Learning Community and the Educational Opportunity Program are good examples of ways to assist new students that will be attracted to Cal Poly Humboldt. The future of students will also benefit from the proposed combined Academic & Career Advising Center.

The university's continuing excellent collaboration with the local College of the Redwoods is critical to our community and especially for health care. It is good to see that HSU has advisory groups that include Native Americans and community leaders.

This is an exciting time for HSU, the California State University System and Humboldt County as HSU becomes a diverse polytechnic. The members of the HSU Emeritus and Retired Faculty and Staff Association are pleased to see the successes of their university and will do all we can to assist in the transition to a polytechnic campus. Thanks to you

and your colleagues for your good leadership of the CSU System and for your caring consideration of the Polytechnic Prospectus. We look forward to your important decision.

Sincerely,

Coordinating Committee of the Emeritus and Retired Faculty and Staff Association
Marshelle Thobaben, Emerita Professor, Nursing, Co-Chair, University Senate
Representative

Ken Fulgham, Emeritus Professor, Rangeland Resources Sciences, Co-Chair, Treasurer

Jeffrey Borgeld, Emeritus Professor, Oceanography, Membership Chair

Bernadette Cheyne, Emerita Professor, Theatre, Film and Dance, Program Chair

Susan Dobie, Emerita Lecturer, Communications, At-large Representative

James Floss, Emeritus Lecturer, Communications, At-large Representative

Rollin Richmond, President Emeritus; Past Chair

Cc: Frank Whitlatch, Vice President for University Advancement