Resolution on Request for Review of and Assistance in Strengthening
Campus Co-Governance, Communication, and Morale

Proposed by the Academic Senate
California State University, Chico
September 2014

WHEREAS, The faculty, staff, students, and administrators of California State University, Chico, are united by a common commitment to create an educational institution that will promote and preserve the intellectual growth and development of the people of California and of the North State into the future; and

WHEREAS, The complexities of managing the people and processes of CSU, Chico have led to recurrent problems in maintaining cooperation and clear communication throughout the campus community; and

WHEREAS, Faculty confidence in the transparency of co-governance structures which are mandated by California State law, Chancellors’ Executive Orders, and CSU, Chico policies has declined markedly; and

WHEREAS, Problems within co-governance have led to a sense that the primacy of Academic Affairs, an office with the singular academic mission of the campus at its heart and from which all other functions of the University derive their purpose, has been compromised and eroded; and

WHEREAS, Campus-wide trust has deteriorated as a result of a lack of transparency and good-faith information sharing in decisions that impact the CSU, Chico community; and

WHEREAS, The stress, as a result of these actions, has led to a failure to maintain well-functioning relationships and a loss of morale; and

WHEREAS, An independent outside review of CSU, Chico would assist in evaluating concerns and identifying solutions; and therefore be it
RESOLVED, That the Academic Senate of CSU, Chico requests that Chancellor Tim White undertake a prompt review of the concerns we have identified above by appointing an independent consultant to; 1) Broadly and confidentially consult with all relevant campus leaders and groups including students, faculty, staff, and all levels of administration; 2) Use the findings to make recommendations to restore a strong sense of shared purpose to our campus governance, administration, and daily work; 3) Make public the information that we will all need to undertake this common purpose; and

RESOLVED, That because the challenges of maintaining a strong viable University system into the 21st century will require frank and open communication between all the members of the campus community, the Academic Senate of CSU, Chico requests Chancellor Tim White assist us in finding our way forward; and

RESOLVED, That this resolution be forwarded to the Board of Trustees, Chancellor Tim White, President Paul Zingg, the Chair of the Academic Senate of the California State University, and Academic Senate CSU, system-wide Campus Senate Chairs.