

# Survey of Senate Chairs On the State of Shared Governance On Their Campus

## ADDENDUM TO THE INSTRUCTIONS 2015-2016

This is the fourth year that we are completing the report and the second year that we are using a survey instrument to assess the state of shared governance on the campuses within the System. You will note that question #3 has been split into two questions: Question #3 and Question #4. Otherwise, the survey is essentially the same as last year. Continuity in the questions helps to provided us with a trend line over time.

### **Who Completes this Survey**

The survey is a survey of Faculty Senate Chairs. This is by design. It is easy to create a bureaucracy that stifles participation and completion of the survey. Having said this, there are generally three ways Senate Chairs have approached the completion of this survey.

***Completion by Senate Chair Only*** – Although this is acceptable, you might want to consider sharing it with your Executive Committee (next option). This makes the survey more representative. Regardless, you are the subject of the survey. The issue is the degree to which you want to share it with others.

***Executive Committee*** – When completing the survey, many Faculty Senate Chairs seek the input of their Executive Committee. Generally, there are two approaches to seek this input. The first is where the Senate Chair shares his or her responses with the committee. The second approach is where the Executive Committee actively provides information in the completion of the survey. Some chairs will utilize both approaches.

***Survey the Faculty*** – The third alternative is to actively survey the faculty. The downside of this approach is that it can easily become mired in bureaucracy. However, as a long-term approach it has merit, particularly if the faculty is currently doing an evaluation of their president. As a side-bar, if you are currently doing an evaluation of your President, you might want to consider incorporating some of the topic areas from this survey into your evaluation.

### **What this Survey Does and What It Doesn't Do**

A commonly asked question is how is this survey going to be used? First, as with any survey, your responses are the data. The results are compiled into a report and executive summary that is shared with the Chancellor. The report is in depth. It is **not** public, and it is shared with the Chancellor and CUSF Executive Committee only. The executive summary is the public document. It is sanitized and written for public consumption.

Next, the survey focuses on the President's role in facilitating shared governance on campus. It is not about whether the President is doing a good job as an administrator. That is the Chancellor's job as Chancellor. As a sidebar, you can do an internal evaluation of your President as an administrator. If you aren't doing one, you should consider doing one. However, that is not the purpose of this survey.

Third, previous evaluations have been used by the Chancellor in his review of Presidents in terms of shared governance. These results have had an impact.

## **Return and Due Date**

The due date for the survey will be at the March 1<sup>st</sup>. This is before the April meeting of the Senate Chairs. A discussion of the results is on the agenda and will be discussed at the meeting. The March date is timed to have the report completed by the Chair of CUSF in time for the Chancellor's annual evaluation of the Presidents.

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