

THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR



BAKERSFIELD

November 20, 2020

CHANNEL ISLANDS

MEMORANDUM

CHICO

DOMINGUEZ HILLS

TO: Tom Jackson, Jr.
President
Humboldt State University

EAST BAY

FRESNO

FROM: Timothy P. White
Chancellor

FULLERTON

HUMBOLDT

SUBJECT: Consideration of Path Forward to Designate Humboldt State University as the Third Polytechnic University in the CSU

LONG BEACH

LOS ANGELES

I have appreciated our conversations over the past several months regarding the strengths and future directions for Humboldt State University. These discussions have been both informal and more formal in our annual summer conference. I am also aware of initial discussions at HSU, with the Division of Academic and Student Affairs here in the Chancellor's Office, along with the leadership at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and Cal Poly Pomona.

MARITIME ACADEMY

MONTEREY BAY

NORTHRIDGE

POMONA

On November 12, 2020, I was pleased that we could engage Executive Vice Chancellor Blanchard and Chancellor-select Castro in the discussion. They concur with this effort to further develop a prospectus to designate HSU as a polytechnic university.

SACRAMENTO

SAN BERNARDINO

SAN DIEGO

Therefore, I encourage you to further develop this concept that could lead to the CSU Board of Trustees taking an action to formally pronounce HSU as a polytechnic university. I now ask that you mobilize stakeholders and pursue a more rigorous self-study and develop a prospectus (along the lines of an academic and business plan) with campus and community stakeholders that hold promise to move this concept forward for formal consideration.

SAN FRANCISCO

SAN JOSÉ

SAN LUIS OBISPO

Humboldt State University is a vital institution on the North Coast and for California. The campus currently has many distinct strengths in the sciences, with a special capacity for matters pertaining to forestry, oceanography, energy, and agriculture. As we look to the needs of California in the decades ahead, programs dealing with the development and application of new knowledge in the fire

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sciences, aquaculture, sustainable energy, north coast crops, and environmental sustainability are among a few areas where HSU could provide world-class programs.

I also see the likelihood that the designation and recognition of HSU as a polytechnic university would make your campus increasingly attractive to students from around California and beyond, creating a robust and stable student body at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

With all stated above, please notify me of your interest in further development as summarized above, along with a tentative timeline. This work can result in a most positive outcome for Humboldt State University, the CSU, your local region and the state of California.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to Executive Vice Chancellor Blanchard or me; and, in the new year then Chancellor Castro.

c: Dr. Joseph I. Castro, Chancellor-select
Dr. Loren J. Blanchard, Executive Vice Chancellor