

February 7, 2001

Chancellor Charles B. Reed
The California State University
401 Golden Shore
Long Beach, California 90802-4210

Dear Charlie:

I am writing to follow up on our recent conversation about the need for CSU and UC to move forward swiftly to develop additional joint doctoral degrees in educational leadership. When you had dinner with my cabinet and our chancellors in October 1998, you asked that UC become more involved in K-12 education. We agreed that we would pursue joint doctoral degree programs with CSU and take a more active role in K-12 education. Since that time, the University has made major strides in increasing its programs focused on K-12. In addition to initiating joint Ed.D. programs with a number of your campuses, other examples include the Governor's Principal Leadership Institutes, focused on professional development for principals and on developing a cadre of new principals, our various teacher professional development programs, our efforts to increase the number of Ph.D.s in education, our K-12 outreach activities, and our partnerships with K-12 schools.

I agree with your assessment that both of our universities need to do more to help the state in this crucial area of public concern, and I am committing the University of California to expanding its efforts even further. However, I am concerned by your indication in our conversation that CSU intends to seek legislative approval this year to grant the Ed.D. degree without collaborating with UC. This step requires a significant change in the Master Plan and should not be made independent of the current review of the Master Plan being chaired by Senator Alpert. Furthermore, if you take this step, it will remove any incentive for CSU campuses to move forward with the joint Ed.D. degree programs currently underway.

With respect to the commitments I have made to expand cooperation between UC and CSU, I am calling for the expeditious development and approval of joint programs having the following characteristics:

- They build on the mutual strengths of the CSU and UC campuses involved to deliver a degree program of high quality.

- The programs will have equitable governance structures, in which each of the CSU and UC campuses involved have the necessary authority and responsibility for ensuring a program of high quality.
- Professional degree programs, in addition to being of high quality, will be designed to be accessible to working professionals through alternative scheduling on evenings, weekends, and summers.
- Ed.D. programs will be structured with completion requirements consistent with the needs of working professionals.
- Because of the State's interest in training future education leaders, some form of State-supported grants or forgivable loans for joint doctoral degree students who agree to work in K-12 or community colleges should be developed. By virtue of being CSU/UC joint programs, these programs would already have affordable fee structures.

To ensure that joint doctoral degree programs become a robust mechanism for providing additional advanced training needs of importance to California, the following steps are being taken:

- I am committing the resources of the Office of the President to ensuring that current negotiations to create additional joint doctoral degree programs are brought to a rapid conclusion. Since we spoke, I have already initiated a series of meetings with campus leaders at UC Riverside to speed their review of the proposed Joint Doctoral Degree in Educational Leadership with a number of CSU campuses. Similar efforts will be undertaken with respect to all the proposals included in the enclosed November 2000 Status Report on CSU/UC Joint Doctoral Programs, four of which are in Education. I am convinced that we can make rapid progress on the Joint Ed.D. in Urban Education between UC Berkeley and San Jose State, San Francisco State, and CSU Hayward (this program would use the Governor's Principal Leadership Institute as a pipeline into the Ed.D.), as well as a joint doctoral program in educational administration between UC Santa Barbara and Cal Poly San Luis Obispo.
- If you are amenable, I would like to issue a joint call for proposals for new joint doctoral degree programs that would go to all UC and CSU campuses. We would create a competitive process (through the CSU/UC Joint Graduate Board) and award planning grants for the most meritorious of the proposals.

- I am asking each UC campus to examine its current joint doctoral degree offerings and to take responsibility for getting in touch with each CSU campus in its region to see if there are areas where collaboration at the doctoral level might prove fruitful. In particular, I will ask each campus for a plan for meeting needs in the area of educational leadership in its region. In addition, I will also ask each UC campus to consider articulated CSU/UC master's and Ph.D. degree programs, in which CSU master's degree recipients could move to UC doctoral programs without the necessity of repeating coursework. Just as important, this would provide a mechanism for faculty at CSU and UC to come together on issues within their disciplines.
- I am providing resources for the Joint Graduate Board to finish developing a Web-based guide for creating and obtaining approval for new joint doctoral degrees.

I will continue to work with you to seek ways to accelerate and assist with review and approval of Joint Doctorate proposals.

I am committed to making these collaborative programs successful and a model for how our public institutions can meet State needs for advanced training. With your support of complementary efforts by CSU, we have an opportunity to create exciting programs that will serve the needs of working professionals in education and other important disciplines.

Sincerely,

Richard C. Atkinson
President

Enclosure

cc: Provost King
Senior Vice President Darling
Vice President Saragoza
Vice Provost Zelmanowitz