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March 24, 2005

The Honorable Jack Scott
Chair, Senate Education Committee
State Capitol, Room 2082
Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Carol Liu
Chair, Assembly Higher Education Committee
State Capitol, Room 4112
Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Jackie Goldberg
Chair, Assembly Education Committee
State Capitol, Room 2003
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Senator Scott and Assembly Members Liu and Goldberg:

In November 2001, the California State University and the University of California reached agreement to establish new joint Doctorates in Education (Ed.D.s) to meet California's need for skilled leaders in K-12 schools and community colleges. Senate Concurrent Resolution 93 (Res. Ch. 157, 2002) expressed legislative support for the Joint Education Doctorate Initiative and asked CSU and UC to report biennially on progress in fulfilling the intent of the Legislature to increase the number of joint UC-CSU Ed.D. programs in Educational Leadership in California. The University of California's first biennial report on the progress of the CSU/UC Joint Ed.D. programs in Educational Leadership is enclosed.

As the report shows, CSU and UC have made considerable progress in establishing new doctoral programs to meet California's needs for educating K-12 and community college leaders. To date, we have begun six new programs involving 13 CSU campuses and six UC campuses:

- Three new programs admitted their first cohort of students in 2003 and their second in 2004 and are now midway through their second year of teaching.
- A fourth began teaching its first cohort of students in January 2005.
- The fifth and sixth programs are admitting students--one will begin instruction in Summer 2005 and the other in August 2005.

The Honorable Jack Scott
The Honorable Carol Liu
The Honorable Jackie Goldberg
March 24, 2005
Page 2

The four new programs have already enrolled 86 new doctoral students. The fifth and sixth programs are expected to enroll another 48 students this year. In addition, a seventh program is expected to begin instruction in January 2006 and the pre-existing UC Davis/CSU Fresno Joint Ed.D. program has expanded its enrollments. Once all of these programs are at full strength, we estimate that enrollments in CSU/UC Joint Ed.D. Educational Leadership programs will total at least 464 students, producing around 150 new doctoral degree holders each year.

CSU representatives have indicated they are no longer interested in submitting a joint report with UC given their current effort to alter the Master Plan for Higher Education so that they can award the doctoral degree independently. They will submit their own report in response to SCR 93. They have publicly expressed concerns that the new joint programs may not be large enough to meet demand. Our view is that the programs are being built deliberately to ensure quality and to accurately assess long-term demand. We are willing to work with CSU through the Joint Ed.D. Board that was established by the 2001 agreement to facilitate new programs and address issues such as state and regional demand.

I want to assure the Legislature that the University remains committed to the terms of the joint agreement and its goal of meeting California's needs for educational leaders. The joint CSU/UC doctoral degree model is a good model for the state to follow in the area of educational leadership because it allows us to bring together the strengths of both institutions in addressing a key state need, just as the Master Plan envisioned. A joint approach also makes better use of the state's resources.

We are concerned that the current CSU effort to seek stand-alone doctoral authority is threatening these programs at a critical stage in their development. The joint Ed.D. programs are on track to enroll significant numbers of students within the next few years. More than \$4 million in public funds has been invested by both CSU and UC in their development. UC faculty are enthusiastic about working with their CSU colleagues in the joint Ed.D. programs and are contributing significantly to their success. We would urge that these joint programs be given the highest priority and be thoroughly evaluated to assess their impact on the state's educational leadership needs before the state considers altering the Master Plan for Higher Education to give CSU independent authority to offer Ed.D. programs.

The Honorable Jack Scott
The Honorable Carol Liu
The Honorable Jackie Goldberg
March 24, 2005
Page 3

We appreciate your support for public higher education in California and for the Joint Ed.D. programs in Educational Leadership. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with me if you have any questions about the Joint Ed.D. initiative.

Sincerely,



Robert C. Dynes

Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Dede Alpert
The Honorable Wesley Chesbro, Chair, Joint Legislative Budget Committee
Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee #1
(Attn: Ms. Amy Supinger)
(Attn: Ms. Cheryl Black)
The Honorable Mervyn Dymally, Chair, Assembly Budget Subcommittee #2
(Attn: Ms. Celia Mata)
(Attn: Ms. Amy Rutschow)
Ms. Elizabeth Hill, Legislative Analyst
Mr. Tom Campbell, Director of Finance
Mr. Walt Schaff, Department of Finance
Mr. Anthony Simbol, Legislative Analyst's Office
Chancellor Reed, CSU
Provost Greenwood, UC
Executive Vice Chancellor Spence, CSU
Senior Vice President Darling, UC
Assistant Vice President Arditti, UC
Assistant Vice Chancellor Zamarripa, CSU
Executive Director Haberman, CPEC