

# THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY

## OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

BAKERSFIELD

May 23, 2006

CHANNEL ISLANDS

Open Letter to the San Francisco State University community:

CHICO

During the spring 2006 term, a three-year review of Robert A. Corrigan, President of San Francisco State University (SFSU), was conducted. The review took the form of collecting and summarizing letters from a selection of the campus community, both internal and external. The review concluded on May 16, 2006, with discussion of the review by the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees and I appreciate the contributions of those who worked with us on this review.

DOMINGUEZ HILLS

EAST BAY

FRESNO

FULLERTON

Criteria established by the Board of Trustees in 1984, and updated in 1994 and 2001, were used to assess the performance of President Corrigan and the progress of the institution. These measures included the overall management of the institution, relations on campus and within the system, educational leadership, community relations, major achievements of the campus and the president, and personal characteristics of the president. Faculty, staff, students, alumni, and community representatives were invited to submit written comments responding to the trustees' criteria.

HUMBOLDT

LONG BEACH

LOS ANGELES

MARITIME ACADEMY

MONTEREY BAY

The review concluded that Robert A. Corrigan is an effective leader for San Francisco State University.

NORTHRIDGE

POMONA

In the last review, President Corrigan was asked to continue the successful strategic planning process, ensure women are included in search pools for administrative positions, strengthen graduate programs, and use presidential communications to mitigate emotionally charged incidents. He has done this.

SACRAMENTO

SAN BERNARDINO

In his time as president, Robert Corrigan improved the diversity of the faculty and, more recently, the administrative staff. The university has hired new faculty committed to scholarship and community service learning. The relationship between the administration and the Academic Senate is far more productive than was the case many years ago.

SAN DIEGO

SAN FRANCISCO

SAN JOSÉ

SAN LUIS OBISPO

Having a small, landlocked campus of 94 acres was a severe limitation. In recent years, there has been an opportunity for the campus or its foundation to purchase land and existing housing units to accommodate immediate and future needs. These purchases were very wise investments for the future and will ease the pressure on recruiting new faculty.

SAN MARCOS

SONOMA

STANISLAUS

During the president's tenure, the university hired 740 new tenure-track faculty. Of these, 71% were women and/or minority. These faculty members infused a new culture of scholarship into San Francisco State. During the recent national economic downturn, most universities retrenched on new faculty hires; SFSU used the opportunity to hire the best faculty available.

The current administrative group is the strongest and most cohesive. Individually and collectively, they are respected and trusted by the university community.

While San Francisco State has been the venue of a number of ethnic, racial, and political emotional outbreaks, during President Corrigan's tenure these have been handled by his measured but swift response. He has been highly successful in settling these matters in a fair and prudent manner.

President Corrigan developed a successful strategic planning process that is inclusive. It has resulted in identification of a series of goals bringing about positive change at the campus.

Capital campaigns are underway for a new performing arts center (\$30 million donor goal to augment state funding) and a library renovation.

Dr. Robert Corrigan and his wife, Joyce Corrigan, are very visible in the civic and community affairs of San Francisco. This has brought the university into the forefront of the community.

Dr. Corrigan's commitment to social justice and equity is manifest in a concerted effort at SFSU to see students and faculty devoted to community service learning projects. Associated with this commitment, Dr. Corrigan is active in the Association of American Colleges and Universities, and other national association groups. He plays key leadership roles in America Reads Challenge, America Counts, and JumpStart. He chairs the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce and the California College Compact.

The following goals were established for President Corrigan for the next several years:

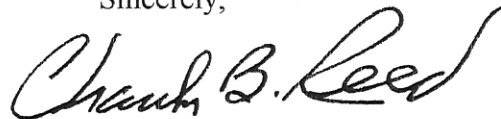
- Expand the President's Scholars and Guardians Scholars programs with new, long-term donor funding.
- Sustain efforts on Trustee mandated student retention and graduation rates.
- Maintain the positive relationship with the Academic Senate and the practices to welcome new faculty to the university.

- Sustain the linkages and service to the civic and cultural communities of San Francisco.
- Continue the visible involvement in national higher education associations.
- Continue promoting community service learning activities at the campus and other campuses in California.
- Complete the physical master plan update.
- Improve results of fundraising efforts.
- Continue work on Off-Campus Expansion--Downtown Center, Bayview Hunters Point, Park Merced, School of the Arts Site, P-16 Education Site in Mission Bay.
- Improve transportation to campus by working with Park Merced, the city, the state, and the federal government to link the MUNI line with BART at Daly City.
- Improve pedestrian safety at the 19th and Holloway entrance to the campus.
- Pursue options for retail development along the Holloway Avenue entrance to the campus.
- Work on creative financing options for new or remodeled campus facilities like the Library, the Creative Arts building, and a Day Care Center.

In conclusion, Dr. Robert Corrigan is an extremely effective president and highly respected faculty colleague at San Francisco State University. He has moved the institution to a higher quality and level of expectations. Thanks to his devotion, experience, and patience, the campus runs smoothly and effectively.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charles B. Reed". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Charles B. Reed  
Chancellor

CBR/wd