

CAL POLY HUMBOLDT
University Senate

Resolution to Update the Policy on Denying or Revoking Emeritus Status for Cause

18-22/23-FAC — February 21, 2023 — Second Reading

RESOLVED: That the University Senate of Cal Poly Humboldt recommends the following changes to Section 540 of Chapter 5 of the Faculty Handbook be forwarded to the General Faculty for a vote of acceptance or rejection; and be it further,

RESOLVED: That the University Senate of Cal Poly Humboldt recommends the following changes to the nomination vetting process document titled, Awarding Emeritus Status: The Cal Poly Humboldt University Senate, Cal Poly Humboldt ERFSA and Provost Office "Vetting" and Notification Process; and

RESOLVED: That these changes become effective immediately upon approval by the General Faculty; and

RESOLVED: That these updates include a process for the Provost's office and/or Human Resources to deny the awarding of emeritus status for cause; and

RESOLVED: A history of conduct or behavior that contravenes basic university policies or the university purpose, vision or core values and beliefs, including serious criminal offenses, fraud, or Title IX violations, is cause for denial of Emeritus status; and

RESOLVED: That nominees who have been denied can appeal to the President by providing supporting documentation within 14 days; and

RESOLVED: That the Emeritus committee shall be created and be comprised of the University Senate Chair, the Cal Poly Humboldt ERFSA President, and the VPAA or designee; and

RESOLVED: That Emeritus status may be revoked by recommendation of the Emeritus committee (comprised of the University Senate Chair, the Cal Poly Humboldt ERFSA President, and the VPAA or designee); and be it further

RESOLVED: That a person whose emeritus status has been revoked may appeal to the President for reinstatement.

RATIONALE:

ASCSU recommended in 2021 that campuses should institute policies to revoke emeritus status in "cases of serious misconduct or just cause that contravenes basic university or public policy." While our emeritus status policy and vetting process was updated to allow for this, we currently do not have a way to deny nominations for the same reasons. This resolution provides for denials and clarifies the vetting process to allow for the Provost and HR to provide input based on confidential information that is not otherwise available to the Emeritus committee.

This resolution also updates the policy for revoking emeritus status, changing the process from a majority vote of senate to a decision by the Emeritus committee. In sensitive cases that include confidential information, it is not fitting to expect people to discuss this in a public forum.

This resolution provides for an appeal of denials or revocations of emeritus status to the President, which is in line with other CSUs.

[Draft revision to Faculty Handbook, Chapter V section 540](#)

[Draft of Vetting Process Revision](#)