

CAL POLY HUMBOLDT
University Senate

Sense of the Senate Resolution on
An Independent Investigation into University Decision Making
related to the April 22, 2024 Protest Actions

28-23/24-EX — May 7, 2024

WHEREAS: On April 22, 2024, a group of Cal Poly Humboldt students initiated a series of protest actions that led to the occupation of Siemens Hall; and

WHEREAS: Subsequent university decision making processes and actions generated deep divides between students, faculty, staff, and administrators; and

WHEREAS: All actors have limited and partial information about the contexts and experiences of those in other groups; and

WHEREAS: There is urgency for the university community to learn from the trauma of this inflection point; and

WHEREAS: Reconciliation at a minimum requires a comprehensive and trusted evaluation be made available to all parties; and

WHEREAS: Future decision making processes can always be improved by learning from experience in a clear-eyed way; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the University Senate of Cal Poly Humboldt calls for an independent investigation into the events and related decision making processes that followed the April 22, 2024 student protest actions; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the investigative team represent diverse experiences in higher education, be free from conflicts of interest that may arise from formal or informal employment relationships with faculty or administrators of Cal Poly Humboldt and the CSU; and be if further

RESOLVED, That said investigators be mutually agreed upon by the University Senate Executive Committee;

RESOLVED, That this investigation have the authority to interview all relevant parties, evaluate all documents and communication; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the investigation be tasked with the evaluation of decision-making and communication strategies immediately before, during, and after occupation of Siemen's Hall; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the investigation be tasked with making recommendations for resolution of the current situation, as well as future campus responses to protest action and civil disobedience; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the findings be made public to the fullest extent possible under the law, and be it further

RESOLVED, That this resolution be distributed to:

Governor Gavin Newsom
Senator Mike McGuire
Congressman Jared Huffman
The California State University's Chancellor's Office
California Secretary of State Shirley N. Weber