



HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY

Office of the President

5 April 2017

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Dr. Julie Alderson
Chair, University Senate

Dear Julie:

I am writing in response to the University's Senate recommendation that I approve the definition of definition of "extraordinary University support", as endorsed by the Senate at the meeting on 7 March 2017. The relevant documents, which I received on 29 March 2017, are the *Sense of the Senate Resolution on Adoption of "Guidelines on Intellectual Property Agreements Resulting from Extraordinary University Support"* (20-16/17-FAC – March 7, 2017) and *Guidelines on Intellectual Property Agreements Resulting from Extraordinary University Support*.

I appreciate the careful thought that has been invested in developing this document, and I regret that I am unable to approve it. Three primary reasons are driving this decision.

One reason is that the system-wide policies are moving forward in the review process. The policies were submitted to the system-wide Academic Senate for comment in March, and responses are due by mid-May. At that time, the working group will consider the comments, modify the policy if needed, and then proceed to collective bargaining. I know that we have all been waiting for the conclusion of this process, and we are seeing some progress.

A second reason is that system-wide policies will supersede all campus policies. As soon as the system-wide policy is adopted, our campus policy will disappear.

The third reason is that the Chancellor has specifically requested that campuses not create their own IP agreements, pending finalization of the system-wide policy.

Thus, I cannot approve this policy. As noted above, the reasons continue to be the ones identified in the last paragraph of the recent resolution; I am again citing "...CSU legal counsel and development of a system-wide policy in declining to approve the new policy."

I know that the Senate has created a subcommittee to develop recommendations to the system-wide Academic Senate and that members of this HSU group are deeply committed to this issue. I believe that the University Senate's input, including the most recent resolution and guidelines, will be valuable to the state-wide Senate in preparing its comments and feedback.

I share your interest in resolving this issue as soon as possible.

With best wishes,

Lisa A. Rossbacher, Ph.D.
President