

**Side Letter re: Planning for Future Emergencies**

The parties agree to establish a joint labor-management committee to conduct a comprehensive review of the response of the State System/Universities to the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic, including a review of what actions were or were not taken at each campus and at the System level, as well as the impacts of those actions (or inactions) upon instruction and support services to students, enrollment, retention, student outcomes, progress toward degree completion, and other relevant factors as determined by the committee. The committee will also study approaches taken by other universities or university systems during the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic and, to the degree practicable, the impacts of those approaches. The committee will begin to meet after the State System has returned to normal operations.

The committee will also develop recommendations regarding best practices to inform planning for future emergencies, including processes for appropriate involvement of faculty in decision making on matters relating to curriculum, instruction, assessment, and the like through shared governance structures. The committee shall also develop recommendations regarding planning for matters relating to physical and technological infrastructure necessary to ensure appropriate delivery of instruction and support services to students in the event of a future emergency. The committee’s recommendations must give due regard to the parties’ mutual obligations of collective bargaining under applicable law.

The committee shall consist of an equal number of members appointed by State APSCUF and by the STATE SYSTEM, not to exceed a total of ten (10) members.

The committee shall provide a report and recommendations to Statewide Meet and Discuss no later than January 31, 2021, unless this deadline is changed by mutual agreement.

Nothing in this Side Letter precludes the parties from entering into agreements as needed to address developments related to the COVID-19 pandemic, prior to the committee’s issuance of its report and recommendations.



May 1, 2020

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For STATE SYSTEM

Date



May 4, 2020

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For APSCUF

Date