University of Colorado
Student Union

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A RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION HISTORY

The University of Colorado at Boulder Chancellor, James N. Corbridge, Jr., has recently proposed to eliminate the position of Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs. This is the one office at the Chancellorial level whose focus is students. This is the one post that directly oversees student concerns. This is the one office that has pushed most strongly for an actualized commitment to diversity on this campus. The Chancellor maintains his reasoning for such a proposal is purely fiscal and on the tail of Amendment #1.

The office of Student Affairs maintains a wide range of services including:

Student Life Services
- -Counseling and Career Services-A Multicultural Center
- -Student Recreation Center
- -UMC
- -Wardenburg

Enrollment Services
- -Admissions
- -Financial Aid
- -Registrar, Senior Director
- -University Learning Center

Student Support Services
- -Greek Liaison
- -International Education, Senior Director
- -Service to Disabled Students
- -Student Conduct

The Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs has played a vital role on this campus in several ways:

Supported the expansion of the Student Recreation Center.
Creation of the Minority Access Network.
Additional programs in Counseling and Career Services.
Doubled support services for students with disabilities.
Instituted the Office of Victim's Assistance.
Instituted the Office of the Ombudsman.
Improvements in Financial Aid and the Registrar's Office.

One repurcussion of Chancellor Corbridge's proposal, if enacted, would be a disempowerment of students by taking away their only direct student advocate at the highest campus administrative level. Students would lose their "seat at the table" in University decision making.

Another repercussion, if Student Affairs is divided up and farmed out to other Vice Chancellor offices, is the pitting of students interests against faculty and administration interests. We do not support competition through division in any fashion.

Additionally, Chancellor Corbridge's proposal is inconsistent with principles outlined in the Boulder Campus Master Plan:

Goal 3: "To provide an exceptional undergraduate experience." A specific objective listed to achieve this goal is Objective 3.E: "Enhance the well-rounded self-development of students, both in and out of the classroom."

Currently, the Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs is responsible for classroom (academic) concerns, and the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs is responsible for the non-academic aspects of student life. Eliminating the position of Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs clearly contradicts this equilibrium. Chancellor Corbridge's proposal has the potential to irreconcilably damage the undergraduate educational experience here at CU Boulder.

Goal 5: "To achieve a campus environment that supports and encourages gender, ethnic, and cultural diversity." A specific action listed to meet this goal is Action 5.B.4: "Develop campus programs, including those in Residence Halls, that promote ethnic and cultural awareness among students." Action 5.C.2: "Enhance the support services for International Students on campus."

The University Administration cannot expect to tell minority students what their needs are and what kind of programs will fit these particular needs. All students, minority students in particular, need a voice at the Vice Chancellor level. Chancellor Corbridge's proposal has the potential to seriously hamper efforts to promote gender, ethnic, and cultural diversity on the Boulder Campus.

Chancellor Corbridge maintains that his proposal comes on the tail of Amendment #1 and fiscal restraints. The 1992-93 University of Colorado at Boulder Personnel Roster and Departmental Budget gives us the following information:

Office of Student Affairs:	**$ 252,331**
Office of Administration:	**$ 288,084**
Office of Academic Affairs:	**$ 1,199,991**
The Chancellor's Office:	**$ 474,623**

note: the Boulder Campus is not predicting a deficit in the budget for fiscal year 1993-94.

If Chancellor Corbridge's proposal to eliminate the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs is purely fiscal, we question why Student Affairs, the least expensive operation, is picking up the entire fiscal burden? If CUB is not predicting a deficit next year, and we are saving, at the most, a Vice Chancellor's salary at approximately $ 60,000., what is the Chancellor proposing to do with this money? For what is it being saved?

In addition, if the Student Affairs office is going under for cost-cutting reasons, what else is being cut or modified for fiscal efficiency? Is this a true savings worth the blatant neglect of the goals listed in the Boulder Master Campus Plan? Is this a true savings worth the total disregard of CU's mission statement and it's expressed commitment to the enhancement of the undergraduate experience? Is this $ 60,000 a trade-off for the message Chancellor Corbridge is sending 26,000 students on this campus: "You are not valued?"

Finally, we have yet to see evidence of a process in the development of this proposal. We feel that there are other cost-cutting options at the Administrative level which have yet to be explored. This organized exploration must involve students, Student Affairs staff and Administration working together to best serve the needs of the University of Colorado at Boulder campus.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislative Council of the University of Colorado Student Union, THAT:

SECTION 1: We demand a thorough evaluation of the proposal to eliminate the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs be undertaken immediately and other cost-cutting options explored.

SECTION 2: We demand answers as to why Student Affairs, the least expensive operation, is picking up the entire fiscal burden of the University? What is the rationale behind the notable fiscal savings the Chancellor cites? Where are these savings? What are they going to be used for?

SECTION 3: We demand that students be involved in any structural reorganizations due to cost-cutting in the Chancellor's Office.

SECTION 4: We demand that the University of Colorado at Boulder Campus renew it's commitment to the enhancement of the undergraduate experience, as stated in it's Master Plan goals and in the CU Mission Statement. The Office of the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs shall be kept intact. A search for a new Vice Chancellor shall begin immediately.

SECTION 5: This resolution takes effect upon passage.

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