

**ACADEMIC SENATE
OF
THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY**

AS-3463-21/EX
January 21-22, 2021

**RESOLUTION WELCOMING JOSEPH I. CASTRO AND MARY G. CASTRO AS
EIGHTH CHANCELLOR AND FIRST LADY OF THE CALIFORNIA STATE
UNIVERSITY (CSU)**

- RESOLVED:** That the Academic Senate of the California State University (ASCSU) extend a warm welcome to Joseph I. Castro and Mary G. Castro as Eighth Chancellor and First Lady of the CSU; and be it further
- RESOLVED:** That the ASCSU look forward to participating with Chancellor Joe Castro in the shared governance of the CSU, to strengthen the working relationship between the Office of the Chancellor and faculty representatives, and to advance the mission of the CSU; and be it further
- RESOLVED:** That the ASCSU invite Chancellor Joe Castro to meet with us during our regularly scheduled Plenary Sessions in order to establish a positive working relationship; and be it further
- RESOLVED:** That the ASCSU appreciate Mary G. Castro's involvement and many contributions to CSU Fresno students and various Central Valley communities, and look forward to her continued engagement throughout the CSU; and be it further
- RESOLVED:** That the ASCSU distribute this resolution to the CSU Board of Trustees, CSU Chancellor Joseph I. Castro and First Lady Mary G. Castro, CSU Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, Loren Blanchard, CSU Assistant Vice Chancellor for International and Off-Campus Programs, Leo Van Cleve, CSU campus Presidents, CSU Provosts/Vice Presidents of Academic Affairs, CSU campus Senate Chairs, CSU campus Senate Executive Committees, CSU Emeritus and Retired Faculty and Staff Association (ERFSA), CSU Alumni Council, California Faculty Association (CFA), and the California State Student Association (CSSA).

RATIONALE: *Fresno State President Joseph I. Castro has been appointed as the eighth Chancellor of the CSU. According to a [press release](#), "Dr. Castro is a passionate and effective advocate for his students, his campus and the CSU – in his local community, in Sacramento and in Washington, D.C.," said Lillian Kimbell, chair of the CSU Board of Trustees. "Above all, he is a leader who inspires greatness in students, faculty and in the broader community. He is the right leader for the California State University in our current circumstance and for our future."*

CSU Faculty Trustee Romey Sabalius notes that Dr. Joe Castro has a record of involvement and success in the CSU (e.g. great improvement of graduation rates at Fresno, established excellent connections and collaboration with community colleges and high schools). He also points out that Dr. Castro is the first California-born and first Mexican-American Chancellor, and that First Lady Mary G. Castro was very involved with campus activities and community work.

Fresno State Academic Senate Chair Thomas Holyoke summed up his thoughts on Dr. Joe Castro with the following comments: "...quiet and very thoughtful because he is always listening to people and considering his response before opening his mouth; very dedicated to students, and enjoys spending time with them; never, ever raises his voice or gets angry; listens to faculty concerns and always gives an answer, even if it is not the answer you wanted; very respectful of other people regardless of background and life experience; enormous empathy; never forgot where he came from, including the poverty and the sacrifices his parents and grandparents made; humble and self-effacing, always admits his mistakes and is open to the idea that he might have made a mistake."

ASCSU Academic Affairs Committee Chair and Fresno State faculty member Susan Schlievert commends Dr. Joe Castro and his wife, Mary, for their advocacy for removing basic need barriers for students; his vision of the university and communities working together to develop talent and realize human potential; his steady communication with and response to constituents; and his willingness to "be bold" as he shepherds the CSU into the future.

Approved by Acclamation – January 21-22, 2021