

**CSU Council on Ocean Affairs, Science and Technology (COAST)**  
**Governance Structure**  
**Adopted May 1 2009**  
**Long Beach, CA**

**Preamble**

The CSU Council on Ocean Affairs, Science and Technology (COAST) is established to promote multi-campus collaborative marine, coastal and estuarine research and education throughout the CSU. Regardless of Campus governance participation, all CSU faculty and staff are eligible for registration and participation as general members.

**Campus Participation**

Campuses are eligible to participate in the CSU COAST governance if they provide a financial contribution to the program through the annual tithing process. The COAST budget year commences July 1 of any given calendar year and ends June 30 of the following calendar year. If a campus tithes during this time period, it will be considered an “Active” campus and will be allowed to name campus representatives to the Council (see below).

**Council Makeup**

Each Active campus is eligible to have two faculty representatives on the Council. Administrators are not eligible to serve as general campus representatives. For the purposes of COAST an administrator is defined at the level of Dean or above. Campuses determine independently how their representatives are chosen. For example, a campus may hold its own election, call for volunteers or nominations, or their representatives can be appointed by the President or a designated authorized official. The Campus President or his/her designee will send the names of the official campus Council representatives to the Coordinator in a formal communication.

In addition to the above representatives, there will be five administrators on the Council, with a maximum of one from any campus. Administrative members will be nominated by the Presidents and selected by vote of the Executive Committee.

There are two marine consortia within the CSU. These consortia will each elect one Council member with the same terms of service as other Council members.

**Council Roles and Responsibilities**

Council members have official voting privileges on behalf of their campus. For example, they can vote on changes to the governance structure to adopt or modify a Strategic Plan and to elect Executive Committee members. They are responsible for communicating with campus faculty and appropriate campus administrators (e.g., Provost, Chief Research Officers, and Deans).

**Council Member Terms**

Upon appointment, each Council member will agree to serve for a three (3) year term. There are no term limits for the Council. Appointments shall be staggered to provide continuity of representation. If the member has to step down before their term is finished, the campus President or their designee will appoint an alternative to serve out the remainder of the term.

**Executive Committee**

A seven-member Executive Committee (EC) will be elected from the Council by the Council. Each EC member will serve a five-year term. Terms will be staggered allowing for turnover of a portion of the EC each year. Nominations for open seats will be called for and voted upon annually. Two seats on the Executive Committee must be administrators.

**COAST Coordinator and Staff**

The Coordinator assists the Council and EC, and directs the Staff. The Coordinator's role is to help in setting priorities and to implement the Council and EC's decisions. The Coordinator reports to the EC. Additional COAST staff will be determined by the EC.

**Chancellor's Office**

The Chancellor's office will provide logistical support as well as additional input on establishing CSU-wide priorities.

**CSU Presidents**

The Presidents will review the program annually and determine the tithing rates. The Presidents will also provide feedback and guidance to the EC. There should be adequate communication among the Presidents as well as with the Chancellor's Office, EC, and Coordinator.

