



## CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, STANISLAUS

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR ENROLLMENT AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

February 25, 2015

Mr. E. Scott Martin  
Chi Alpha Campus Ministries, U.S.A.  
1445 N. Boonville Avenue  
Springfield, MO 65802

Dear Mr. Martin,

This letter is in response to your February 6, 2015, letter regarding the Chi Alpha student chapter at CSU Stanislaus. President Sheley has referred the matter to me as the Vice President for Enrollment and Student Affairs. I appreciate you sharing your concerns, and providing some background information regarding the Chi Alpha student chapter and the ongoing discussions between you and CSU Stanislaus administrators regarding Chi Alpha's constitution. We disagree with the characterization of several of the events and communications described in your letter. However, we continue to be willing to work with Chi Alpha so that it can continue its presence at CSU Stanislaus.

As you are aware, under California Law and CSU policy, including executive Order ("EO") 1068, student organizations may not discriminate in membership or leadership by requiring a statement of faith or its equivalent, nor can students be excluded from eligibility for leadership positions based on their protected status, or upon any other basis. Nothing in EO 1068, however compels which candidate must be chosen by the membership for leadership. Instead, each student organization may select its leaders by a process of its choice, and students are free to vote for candidates who best represent their views. Further, nothing in EO 1068 prohibits a student organization from instituting non-discriminatory requirements for leadership eligibility—such as a minimum period of time as a member in good standing, minimum attendance requirements, or relevant skills-based tests.

I understand that, despite the representations in your February 6 letter, the CSU Stanislaus chapter of Chi Alpha has not yet submitted an updated constitution. We have reviewed the constitutional provisions cited in your February 6 letter, and, with the exception of the final sentence, the language that you cited in your letter appears to meet the requirements of EO 1068. The final sentence of the updated constitution states: "Chi Alpha agrees to comply with the University's post-September 2014 interpretation of its anti-discrimination policy only under duress **and only to the extent that Chi Alpha retains the ability to select leaders that fully support Chi Alpha's mission and are capable of carrying out that mission.**" (emphasis added.) The bolded portion of this sentence expresses an intent to disregard California law and CSU's "all comer's" policy, as expressed in EO 1068. This portion of the final sentence would need to be removed from any updated constitution Chi Alpha submits to CSU Stanislaus before Chi Alpha could be considered for reinstatement for the 2014-2015 academic school

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year.

CSU Stanislaus has engaged in an ongoing dialogue with Chi Alpha in an effort to respond to their concerns regarding EO 1068, and what that entails for student organizations, including Chi Alpha. We encourage you to submit the updated Chi Alpha constitution by March 30, 2015, so that it can be fully evaluated to determine if it complies with EO 1068. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,



Suzanne Espinoza  
Vice President for Enrollment and Student Affairs

cc: President Joseph F. Sheley  
Ronald Noble, Dean of Students  
Clarissa Lonn-Nichols, Director for Student Leadership and Development