Dr. Charles B. Reed  
Chancellor  
The California State University  
401 Golden Shore  
Long Beach, CA 90802-4210

Dear Chancellor Reed:

This is a follow up to my letter to you of September 10 and several conversations that I and Robert Jones, CSUS Vice President for University Affairs have had with members of your staff regarding my nomination of former U.S. Secretary of Education Richard Riley for an Honorary CSU Doctorate ("in the names of the California State University, and the campus" as provided for by CSU Trustee policy).

The university's campus committee for the review of this matter was convened on Thursday, October 25th (See attached document regarding the committee's responsibilities and composition). The committee reviewed and endorsed the nomination. This action has been forwarded to the Chair of the University's Faculty Senate for the purpose of reporting the nomination to the Senate at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

If the CSU Board of Trustees approves the Honorary Doctor of Human Letters (L.H.D.), it will be awarded to Mr. Riley at the university's Winter 2001 commencement ceremony on Friday December 14 at ARCO Arena in Sacramento.

Sincerely,

Donald R. Gerth

c:  David S. Spence  
   Jo Service  
   Bob Buckley
MEMORANDUM

TO: University Council

FROM: Donald R. Gerth

SUBJECT: Procedures for Awarding Honorary Degrees

The document attached contains the procedure to be used at California State University, Sacramento, for making recommendations to the Chancellor and the Board of Trustees on the award of honorary doctorates.

The Board's policy on the award of honorary doctorates provides for consultation by the campuses and encourages faculty, students, and other members of the University community to be involved in recommendations. Following the Board's direction, I charged an ad hoc committee on December 2 of last year with developing procedures for providing the consultation desired by the Board. The procedures are the result of the ad hoc committee's work.

The ad hoc committee also recommended that California State University, Sacramento, make no recommendations on honorary doctorates this year, but begin the cycle for producing recommendations with the start of the fall term. I am accepting this recommendation as well.

I wish also to thank the members of the ad hoc committee, Professor James Bosco, Dean John Colen, Professor Miriam Legare, Professor James Saum, Professor Peter Shattuck, and its Chair, Vice President Robert Jones, for their good work.

DRG/jt

Attachment
In 1983 the Board of Trustees of The California State University established a policy permitting the award of doctoral degrees for three purposes: to recognize excellence and extraordinary achievement in areas that embody the University's ideals; to honor service to the University and the wider society; and to recognize men and women who might serve as examples for the University's student body.

Although the degrees are to be awarded by the Trustees and only in the name of the California State University, the Trustees outlined procedures for consultation with, and encouraged recommendations from, "any member of The California State University community." Recommendations originating in any of the campus communities shall be submitted through the campus President, who shall establish a committee to review recommendations and select no more than two nominations to be forwarded to the Chancellor.

The procedures to be used at California State University, Sacramento, for making recommendations on the granting of honorary doctoral degrees shall be the following:

1. The Committee on Honorary Degrees shall be established consisting of six members:

   1. The Chair of the Academic Senate;
   2. The President of the Alumni Association;
   3. The President of the Associated Students;
   4. The Chair of the University Staff Assembly;
   5. The Chair of the Community Advisory Board;
   6. The President

   The members may be represented by a designee.

2. The Committee on Honorary Degrees shall solicit and review campus nominations and make recommendations to the President. The Committee shall also assist in compiling material in support of the nominations forwarded to the Chancellor.

3. The responsibility for managing the nomination process shall rest with the Office of University Affairs, which will provide staff to the Committee.
4. The Office of University Affairs shall prepare a memorandum containing a summary of the Honorary Degree criteria and a nomination form, and distribute the memorandum to the Campus Community during the second week of the fall term.

5. The calendar used to guide the process of recommending on Honorary Degrees is attached to this memorandum; the calendar may be revised as circumstances dictate.
CALENDAR FOR RECOMMENDATION ON HONORARY DOCTORATES

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SACRAMENTO

Second week of Fall Term

Seventh week of Fall Term

Last week of Fall Term

Call for Nominations
Issued by Office of University Affairs

Deadline for Nominations and Supporting Materials due to Office of University Affairs

Recommendations from Committee to President
The *Christian Science Monitor* says that many Americans regard Dick Riley as "one of the great statesmen of education in this century." David Broder, columnist for *The Washington Post*, has called him one of the "most decent and honorable people in public life." And when Riley was governor of South Carolina, he was so popular that the people amended their constitution to enable him to run for a second term.

Wherever he goes, Richard Wilson Riley—U. S. Secretary of Education and grandfather of ten—wins respect for his integrity, principled leadership, commitment to children, and passion for education.

President Clinton chose Dick Riley to be Secretary in December 1992 after Riley won national recognition for his highly successful effort to improve education in South Carolina. During the President’s first term, Riley helped launch historic initiatives to raise academic standards; to improve instruction for the poor and disadvantaged; to expand grants and loan programs to help more Americans go to college; to prepare young people for the world of work; and to improve teaching. He also helped to create the Partnership for Family Involvement in Education, which today includes over 4,000 groups.

Riley gets things done by reaching out to all citizens. He prefers partnership to partisanship. His quiet, self-effacing style "can drive impatient, assertive young Washington movers and shakers crazy," the *National Journal* has written. "He doesn’t grab headlines or clamor for credit... But, inevitably, Riley reaches his goal."

Riley’s efforts were so successful that President Clinton asked him to stay on in his second term to lead the President’s national crusade for excellence in education. Riley and the President agree that education must be America’s number one priority in the years ahead. Already in the second term, Riley has helped win an historic ruling by the F.C.C. to give schools and libraries deep discounts for Internet access and telecommunications services and helped win major improvements in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

Riley’s goals now include helping all children to master the basics of reading and math; making schools safer; reducing class sizes in grades 1-3 by helping states and schools to hire 100,000 more good teachers; modernizing and building new schools to meet record-breaking student enrollments and to help students learn to use computers; and expanding after-school programs.

Dick Riley was born in Greenville County, S. C., on Jan. 2, 1933. He was graduated *cum laude* from Furman University in 1954 and served as an officer on a U. S. Navy minesweeper. In 1959, Riley received a law degree from the University of South Carolina. He was a state representative and state senator from 1963-1977 and was elected governor in 1978 and reelected in 1982. Riley is married to the former Ann Osteen Yarborough. They have four children.