Whereas, Dr. Richard R. Rush has served as the founding president of California State University Channel Islands for the past fourteen years, and

Whereas, he has left an indelible mark on this campus through his foresight, leadership, and humor, and

Whereas, his vision for a university of the 21st Century has provided opportunities for thousands of students to realize their dreams and goals of earning bachelor’s and master’s degrees and other academic certifications, and

Whereas, he has set a standard for innovation, imagination, and sincerity in his dealings with and responsiveness to faculty, staff, and students, and

Whereas, his integral role in faculty hiring, and intention in building a unique learning community, especially in the early years, laid the foundation for every academic program created, and

Whereas, President Rush is a great man of strong character, and the creator of a positive campus climate that led to us being named a great college and university to work for by faculty and staff (except that we don’t have great parking for faculty), and

Whereas, he is not too proud to accept significant accreditation awards in pants two sizes too small, and

Whereas, he is never shy about showing off his immense vocabulary that only other English professors can understand or about making up fake Shakespeare quotes to snow us all, and

Whereas we spent an afternoon coming up with these statements rather than writing for publication, because President Rush has loved us and we all love him.

Therefore, be it Resolved, the Academic Senate of California State University Channel Islands expresses our most sincere appreciation and thanks to President Richard R. Rush for both his leadership and his friendship.