

Resolution Number: RS15-329

May, 2015

Whereas:

Sheldon Axler came to San Francisco State University from Michigan State University in 1997 to chair the department of Mathematics; and

Whereas:

Dean Axler has served as the Dean of Science and Engineering for 13-1/2 years; and

Whereas:

Dean Axler could be counted upon to provide service to the university above and beyond the call of duty by serving on the Academic Senate, chairing several university search committees, and serving on the UPAC task force charged with recommending changes in the reorganization of the university in 2010; and

Whereas:

Dean Axler led the College of Science and Engineering with a positive attitude, being realistic and pragmatic without stepping down from a challenge and demonstrating unprecedented openness and transparency; and

Whereas:

Dean Axler sheltered the faculty, staff and students in the College of Science and Engineering as best he could from the financial challenges of the past few years, often absorbing the cuts within the College office; and

Whereas:

By publishing several textbooks while dean (most containing a reference to his cats) and teaching periodically, Dean Axler demonstrated through his actions his dedication to teaching and the effective integration of teaching and scholarship; and

Whereas:

Dean Axler consistently exhibited integrity in his interactions with faculty, students and staff by working tirelessly to keep any promises made; and

Whereas:

Dean Axler was gracious and welcoming to the Psychology and Geography departments when they joined the college; accepting them as equals and proving an apt pupil in attempting to serve them equitably; and

Whereas:

Dean Axler fostered interdisciplinary research in the College; and

Whereas:

Dean Axler was an ardent supporter of InterSCI, the journal of the CoSE. He encouraged faculty and student participation and provided college resources toward its publication as an outreach tool to students, new faculty and supporters of the CoSE; and

Whereas:

Dean Sheldon Axler has contributed to intellectual growth and advancement of science & engineering at SF State by hiring 87 top-notch tenure-track faculty, and supporting them once they arrived on campus; and

Whereas:

Dean Axler supported the development of several centers within the College of Science and Engineering including the Center for Science and Math Education, the Center for Computing in the Life Sciences, and the Science Education Partnership & Assessment Laboratory; and

Whereas:

Dean Axler grew the annual College of Science and Engineering Student Project Showcase from less than 50 projects in 2002 to over 200 currently, giving students an opportunity to present their intellectual endeavors to the local and campus community, and rewarding those top students with monetary prizes; and

Resolved:

That the Academic Senate of San Francisco State University congratulates Dean Axler on his successful tenure as Dean of the College of Science and Engineering, having left legacies of excellence in both administration and academics; and let it further be

Resolved:

That the Academic Senate wishes Dean Axler well as he returns to what he refers to as the best job in the world (Professor of Mathematics) and looks forward to his further contributions to the campus as a faculty member.
