

# **President's Working Group on Sustainable Education, Research, and Operations Recommendation for a Chief Sustainability Officer for USC**

**February 2020**

## **The Organizational Challenge**

How best can USC be organized within and across units to achieve the new and ambitious goal of sustainability in education, research and operations?

## **Recommendation**

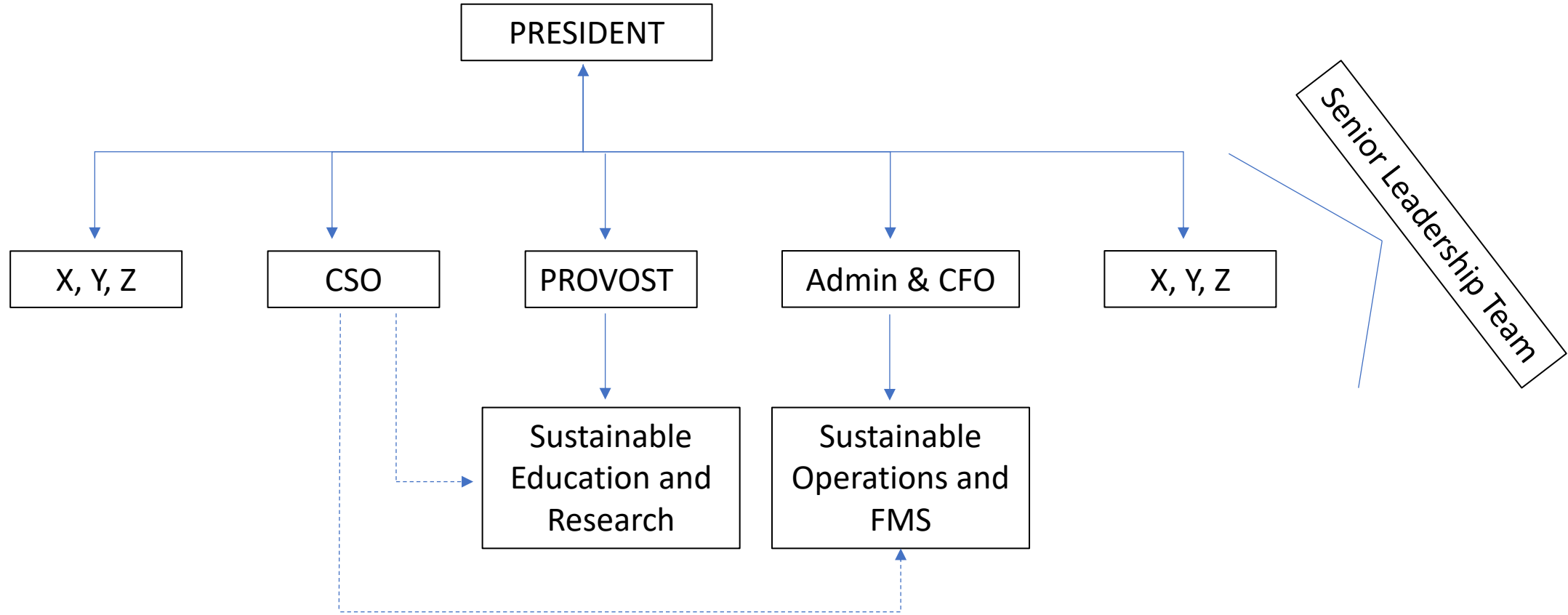
After considerable discussion on the organizational changes needed in becoming a sustainable university and consideration of alternative designs for meeting it, the PWG voted unanimously on February 14, 2000, to recommend the appointment of a senior level Chief Sustainability Officer for USC. This appointment will represent a significant step in the transition to sustainability. The CSO position is intended to report directly to the President, while providing unifying leadership through fostering coordination, cooperation, and communications across all facets of education, research, and operations.

Specific roles and responsibilities of the CSO would include, though not limited to:

1. Advisor to the President on sustainability
2. Member of the President's Senior Leadership Team
3. Manager of CSO office
4. Manager of the Presidential Sustainability Website
5. Development and oversight of a Sustainable USC branding strategy
6. Repository of information on all major sustainability activities at USC
7. Facilitate coordination on sustainability among all USC educational, research and operations and FMS units
8. Facilitate coordination on sustainability among all USC campuses and business entities
9. Maintain dotted line or shared reporting on issues and activities relevant to sustainability in operation/FMS units
10. Maintain tracking data on goals and accomplishments/compliance and provide annual report on university sustainability activities, from all relevant units
11. Host/coordinate university-wide annual sustainability events and similar community-university events on and off campus
12. Represent the President and USC at regional CSO meetings and relevant professional associations of universities
13. Coordinate and help facilitate USC outreach on sustainability to public and private partners and community stakeholders
14. Award retrospective and prospective annual prizes to staff, faculty, and students for innovation practices and demonstrated campus leadership in sustainability

Figure 1 shows the Organizational Flow Chart with CSO included.

FIGURE 1



Sustainability Advisory Bodies:

1. Presidential Working Group
2. Sustainability Council (Proposed)