

Report from ASCSU November 1-3, 2017

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1. Overview of Standing Committee Meetings (November 1)

Executive Orders EO 1100 (general education) and EO 1110 (remediation) and shared governance issues continued to be discussed in the standing committees and Executive Committee but resolutions on other issues were also developed/revised.

2. **Senator Swenson**, who is also President of the Faculty at CSU, Northridge, gave a lengthy report on his campus response to EO 1100 (revised) and its potential impact on ethnic studies and related programs. A campus meeting on the issues was held on campus at a large venue that filled to overflowing. Chancellor White responded to the concerns expressed with a proposed approach that would allow the retention of the campus “Area F” requirements. The Senate ultimately reaffirmed its resolution declaring its intent not to cooperate with the implementation of this Executive Order.

An interesting article related to these issues can be found at

<https://edsources.org/2017/california-state-faculty-still-upset-about-remedial-ed-changes-but-compromises-emerging/589716>

3. **Chair Miller’s** current and other past chair reports can be found at

http://www.calstate.edu/AcadSen/Records/Chairs_Reports/

4. Excerpts from Other Reports

- a. **Academic Affairs** discussed the following topics.

- i. Worked on Resolution on Project Rebound (for formerly incarcerated students)
- ii. Student mental health counselor ratios were discussed and student mental health overall were discussed. We may have a resolution in January.
- iii. Are continuing to discuss measures of student success.
- iv. Are looking at issues surrounding faculty development.
- v. Reviewed proposed revisions to three EOs (1080, 1081 1082) on international studies/study abroad.

- b. **Academic Preparation and Education Programs** discussed the following topics.

- i. Had a number of visitors to discuss multiple measures for student placement into math and composition courses. Students will be placed into three groups under the new model.
- ii. Some campuses are looking for other ways to place students (e.g., using ALEKS).
- iii. Some campuses are concerned about their capacity to offer sufficient A3 and B4 courses under the new model.
- iv. Quantitative reasoning resolution—there is a second reading on the Senate agenda.

- v. The CO is interested in campus proposals to integrate prebaccalaureate coursework into FYE-like courses that might be offered next summer to replace Early Start.
 - vi. Integrated teaching programs. There is a problem with some graduates of these programs not getting sufficient recognition in district pay schedules.
- c. **Faculty Affairs** discussed the following topics.
- i. Perquisites for emeritus faculty on their campuses.
 - ii. Issues related EO 1100 & EO 1110 dominated discussions.
 - iii. Update on Faculty Numbers and Faculty Recruitment—they were up slightly this past year.
 - iv. The various approaches taken on individual campuses related to the imposition of the new EOs. Jeniffer Eagen visited and discussed related issues from the perspective of CFA.
 - v. External funding for research in the CSU exceeds \$560 million.
- d. **Fiscal and Governmental Affairs** discussed the following topics.
- i. Are planning for spring Advocacy Day.
 - ii. Governor's interest in MOOCs despite evidence that they are not effective.
 - iii. SUGs, Pell Grants Cal Grants.
 - iv. Student affordability issues: food insecurity, housing insecurity, textbook affordability.
 - v. Tracking of close to 200 bills—more likely to come.
 - vi. Shared governance.
- e. **Faculty Trustee Sabalius** reaffirmed his admiration of, and support for, the ASCSU. He plans to consult with the group and individual members in the coming months as he embarks upon his new responsibilities. He reviewed his many trustee-related activities over the past several weeks. Asked if he has seen a change in the stance of the administration relative to executive orders, he replied yes. Implementation delays and limited waivers have already been granted by the Chancellor. He feels we need to keep lines of communication. The administration does listen to us. **Former Faculty Trustee Stepanek** looked back over his years as trustee, department chair and Senate member. Some things have changed recently. Students and labor have a greater role in shared governance. State government officials have been come more active in legislation/regulation/requests for information and are more likely to impose potentially unrealistic deadlines. He urged us to become more proactive and work with the administration to respond to legislative mandates. He feels we should look at how ASCSU and the administration can best work together to address the many issues facing the CSU and strive to improve that relationship. Trustees' written reports can be found at http://www.calstate.edu/AcadSen/Records/Faculty_Trustee/index.shtml
- f. **GE Advisory Committee** discussed the following issues.
- i. Use of AP Computer Science for credit for B4.
 - ii. Use of Defense Language Institute coursework for credit for C2.
 - iii. The need for B4 clarifying language.
 - iv. The standing of *Guiding Notes for Reviewers* vis a vis EO 1100.
 - v. Best practices in GE program assessment.

- g. **English Council** discussed
 - i. Implementation of EO 1110.
 - ii. Multiple measures for placement.
 - iii. Upcoming meeting of composition coordinators and potential for sponsored faculty development.
 - iv. The timing of the above and responses to the above.
 - v. The success of existing composition programs. It appears that existing programs already accomplish what the new EO purports to accomplish.
 - h. **GE Task Force**
 - i. Are making progress in their subcommittees.
 - ii. Are looking at both an overall programmatic goals and specific issues.
 - i. **Admissions Advisory Council**
 - i. The most recent eligibility report indicated that our admission standards result in 40.8% of CA HS graduates being eligible for admission to the CSU. The Master Plan for Higher Education in California sets the target eligibility percentage at 33.3%.
 - ii. The Governor's office indicated that perhaps the CSU eligibility index needs to be reexamined.
 - j. **Tenure Density Task Force**
 - i. Their report will be available soon.
5. **Notes:** On Thursday afternoon, ASCSU met as a Committee of the Whole to discuss shared governance and joint decision-making and potential steps to move forward. There is a genuine desire to find ways to improve the relationship between the faculty of the CSU and the administration and Trustees. Typically, a Committee of the Whole is convened to have broad ranging discussions of issues rather than to take formal actions or make decisions. Subsequently, we passed a motion that directed the Executive Committee "to meet with CSU leadership to address the current state of faculty/administration relations and ask all of them to develop a mutually agreed upon definition of joint decision making and recommend a process by which decisions are made."
6. We passed the following commendations.
- a. **Commendation for former Faculty Trustee Stepanek** recognizes his many contributions to the CSU and ASCSU as a longtime department chair, member of ASCSU, campus senate chair, faculty trustee, etc.
 - b. **Resolution to Recognize and Commend CSU Campus Mutual Aid and Assistance, First Responders, and Campus Emergency Responders in the Sonoma Fire Emergency** is self-explanatory and includes recognition of the assistance offered by many other CSU campus personnel.
7. We passed the following resolution upon second reading.
- <http://www.calstate.edu/AcadSen/Records/Resolutions/>.
- a. **Standards for Quantitative Reasoning** supports the definition of quantitative reasoning contained in the QRTF report, endorses the baccalaureate level expectation of quantitative reasoning, affirms that

transfer B4 courses have quantitative reasoning as a base, affirms that B4 courses should have as goal to move students towards baccalaureate-level quantitative reasoning outcomes, and encourages the CSU to communicate to high schools of our intent to require a fourth year of mathematics in the a-g admissions requirements.

8. We introduced the following resolutions that will be considered for adoption at our January plenary. Copies of this resolution should be available shortly for campus review.
 - a. **Shared Governance and Consultation in the CSU** expresses gratitude to the campus senates which passed resolutions concerning EOs 1100 and 1110, acknowledges breakdowns in shared governance related to the EOs, pledges the ASCSU's commitment to identify and remedy problems in shared governance, and declares its intent to jointly adopt, with the administration, the accompanying "Statement on Shared Governance and Consultation in the California State University" and the related "Principles of Consultation with Faculty" documents.
 - b. **Project Rebound Program: Support and Expansion** advocates for this program which supports formerly incarcerated individuals who are attending the CSU, encourages expansion of the program, and argues for adoption of a similar program at the federal level.
 - c. **An Alternative Process for C-ID Course Review** endorses a recommendation that one method of course review be by the chair of the CCC department offering the course.
9. **Senator Leo Van Cleve (Chancellor's representative)** provided context for EVC Blanchard's comments regarding any potential legal action that might be brought by CFA and commended the body for focusing on moving forward in shared governance. The administration is willing to work with ASCSU on issues surrounding shared governance and joint decision-making. Shared understanding of scope and definitions would be helpful. His statement supports the motion taken by the body contained in Section 5 above.
10. **CFA Liaison & President Jennifer Eagan** mentioned CFA resolutions on the EOs and peace with North Korea. She discussed CFA work on justice, DACA, the work of committees, the introduction of CFA podcasts, upcoming endorsements of political candidates, controversial outside speakers on campuses, assigned time for exception levels of service, etc. She discussed the importance of encouraging faculty from underrepresented groups to apply for this assigned time. CFA is unwilling to provide contract voting data broken down by campus.
11. **Hans Johnson, PPIC** (Note: the following was reconstructed from notes taken by a colleague while I was absent from the session.) California has a growing need for more college graduates to support our economy. PPIC offers independent analysis of policy that affect California. Education and higher education are two areas. The primary justification for state spending on higher education is to provide for a stronger economy and better lives for its residents. Many reports can be found on our website. We expect a shortfall of up to 1.1 million college

graduates in CA by 2030. The biggest projected shortfall is for people with baccalaureate degrees. Baby boomers participated in higher education at higher rates than the current generation. As they retire, the shortage becomes larger. More occupations are now requiring college degrees. There are great economic benefits for students completing college degrees regardless of major. California's educational statistics regarding HS completion, college transfer, college graduates, etc. are inadequate and trail much of the nation.
<http://www.ppic.org/publication/ppic-statewide-survey-californians-and-higher-education-november-2017/>

12. Chancellor Timothy White mentioned the devastating impact the recent fires had on the SSU campus and the impact on other campuses. There will continue to be impacts related to rebuilding, shortage of housing, etc. Many campuses pitched in to offer staffing support to SSU. This cooperation is evidence of some of the advantages of being part of a system of campuses. We are attempting to assist students to renew their DACA status before the deadline. The CSU is a partner in the CA suit opposing the suspension of DACA. There is a good chance that if this issue goes to the Supreme Court DACA will be overturned. A more definitive solution would be for the Congress to act. A PPIC report of survey results dealing with higher education just came out. Affordability is an issue, particularly housing. California resident attitudes towards the CSU are increasingly positive and higher than those towards the UC. The Chancellor thanked us for the good work we do as reflected in these results. Other reports results were shared (see link in previous section). There may be support for a construction bond offering to support higher education. The Board will ask for a \$300m budget increase for next year to support graduation, salaries, student growth, mandatory costs, etc. However, we expect a lower level of support in the Governor's budget. We will really need to pull together this year (administration, faculty, labor) to advocate for adequate support for the CSU. Given inflation and cost increases, we are facing a potential actual decrease in our system financial resources next year. We also face some uncertainties dealing with federal actions on healthcare. **Q&A:** Q: Is there data to support the reasoning behind EOs 1100 and 1110? Is it a good idea to reduce the math/science rigor in GE? A: Send me an email with your specific questions and we will try to find the data. Q: Can we meet in small groups to address shared government issues with you? A: You bet. Q: Why did the CSU not join in the UC suit relative to DACA? A: The UC developed their suit in private—also, they are a constitutionally independent state agency operating under different rules. Q: Isn't the number of EOs increasing these days and can we have more input on the development? A: Not really, the number is actually decreasing compared to the past. Q: How can we move forward in improving shared governance? A: I am willing to sit down and discuss ideas. We have some new Senators in the room that may have new ideas. Open communication and trust is a shared responsibility. There are many voices to which the CSU needs to pay attention—unions, government, board, faculty, other employee groups, etc. Q: Why isn't there better consultation on a number of issues? A: Some are controlled by labor contract. On others, we can do a better job. Q: We seem to focus too much on metrics like graduation rates and times, especially given our student demographics. A: I agree.

The metrics paid attention to by the public do not reflect everything that is important. However, our funding is increasingly dependent upon these metrics.

- 13. Presentation by Jeff Gold & James Minor (CO, Graduation Initiative)** They reviewed a presentation on GI 2025 that they will present to the Board next week. Time to graduation is not the only important student success metric. Quality and learning are also very important. Our goal is to improve the 4-year graduation rate only to 40% and the 6-year rate to 70%.. Intermediate goals were reviewed. There is a persistent 10 point achievement gap experienced by Pell-eligible students and a 12 point gap experienced by underserved minority groups. Many resources and background material on GI 2025 can be found at <https://www2.calstate.edu/csu-system/why-the-csu-matters/graduation-initiative-2025/> The Georgia system experienced significant increases in student success implementing policies similar to those contained in EO 1110. Perhaps we need to rethink how we define “underserved:” perhaps it is more of a continuous rather than a discrete variable. College readiness, first generation status, economic challenges and ethnic background can all impact the likelihood of student successful completion. There is a great economic benefit for students if we can decrease their time to degree.
- 14. EVC Loren Blanchard** Previewed two more topics that will be presented at the Board meeting next week in response to Trustee requests. They will give an update on teacher preparation and addressing the CA teacher shortage. They will highlight integrated teacher preparation and other programs, outreach to potential teachers, and financial aid for those preparing for a career in teaching. They will also address how enrollment management works in the CSU, focusing on campus strategies and tools. They will also address student food and housing insecurity and financial need. The Board will have a resolution on DACA. He acknowledged the resolutions related to EO 1100 and 1110 passed by campuses. He intends to respond to the campus resolutions through Chair Miller by next week. Campuses have been invited to submit proposals for summer student readiness courses. Two Senators shared an analysis showing a very high correlation in the CSU between campus SFRs & tenure density and campus 4 & 6-year graduation rates. Dr. Blanchard indicated that faculty hiring is an important part of our efforts to increase student success. However, available funds may be inadequate to make significant progress in this area. Senators expressed dissatisfaction with the current joint decision-making processes and the substance of the two EOs. Dr. Blanchard reviewed the process of consultation undertaken in drafting the two EOs. Multiple Senators repeated HEERA language which seems to mandate joint decision-making with the faculty, especially in the realm of curriculum with a specific mention of ASCSU as the official voice of the faculty.
- 15. Ryan Brown (CSSA Liaison)** reported on the activities of CSSA over the past two months. The October plenary was planned for SSU but had to be cancelled due to the fires. The agenda will be taken up in November at the SLO campus. We are focusing on impending impacts from the potential rescission of DACA. We are engaged in federal lobbying to allow DACA students to remain in the country and

complete their studies. We support the DREAM Act. We are looking at legislation dealing with student loans (origination fees, etc.). We are looking at affordability (i.e., on-line, free textbooks). We are looking at ways to promote a positive campus climate and equity. We are looking at how shared governance has broken down in regards to the adoption of the new EOs. We will be considering changes to Title IX interpretations and encouraging the CSU administration to consider enforcing previous guidelines.

16. Jay Swartz (ERFA Liaison) (Note: the following was reconstructed from notes taken by a colleague while I was absent from the session.) They extended membership to all CALPERS-eligible CSU employees. They seek more involvement with advising and mentoring DACA students. ERFA unanimously passed a resolution opposing the implementation of EO 1100 and EO 1110. Decisions of this type need to be data driven and put on hold until there is sufficient opportunity for faculty input. Are advocating for preferred health care rates for retired faculty, particularly in rural areas. They will meet next at East Bay.

17. Denise Bevly (Director of Student Wellness) gave a presentation on the Basic Needs Initiative in conjunction with GI 2025. 1 in 5 CSU students reported food insecurity and 1 in 12 housing insecurity. These terms were defined. We are implementing initiatives to deal with immediate needs (emergency housing, food pantries, etc.), growth (in campus-based initiatives), scale (expanding successful campus programs across the CSU), collaboration (with CCCs, UC, and state and federal partners), and sustainability (of the initiatives already mentioned). Senators provided a number of excellent suggestions for potential programs/approaches for dealing with student wellness issues on our campuses.