Accomplishments

1. To be proactive and respond quickly to legislation of concern to the ASCSU, the FGA was instrumental in having the ASCSU approve two resolutions on legislative advocacy principles and legislative advocacy guidelines of the ASCSU.

2. Utilizing these principles and guidelines, the FGA developed positions on approximately thirty legislative bills in an omnibus resolution, which was approved by the ASCSU in March 2014. These positions were then utilized as part of the ASCSU Advocacy Day in Sacramento in April 2014.

3. To keep abreast of the fiscal and legislative changes in Sacramento and to provide the ASCSU view on relevant topics, the FGA made connections with the Governor's Department of Finance and the Legislative Analyst's Office. The FGA remained in contact with both these units throughout the year and also met with appropriate personnel from these units on the ASCSU Advocacy Day in April 2014.

4. The ASCSU Advocacy Day planned by the FGA took place in April 2014. The day was rather productive and immensely successful. The objective was to advocate for increased funding for the CSU and provide the ASCSU position on select legislative bills. Senators from the FGA and the Executive Committee formed teams and visited approximately forty-five legislator's offices including the Department of Finance and the Legislative Analyst's Office. The teams met personally with the Speaker of the House and the Chair of the Assembly Higher Education Committee.

5. For the last couple of years, the FGA has been provided with detailed CSU financial statements for both the general fund and the auxiliaries. These were prepared by the Chancellor's Office of Finance and include details on the sources of the funds and the uses of funds. Personnel from the Office of Finance have spent time with the FGA explaining the categories and expenditures so as to familiarize the FGA about the finances of the CSU.

6. The ASCSU concurred with the CSU Board of Trustees budget request for 2014-15 by approving a resolution drafted by the FGA.

Suggestions

1. With concerns regarding the large tuition increases in the last few years and questions being raised about the enactment of significant campus' Student Success/Excellence Fees, allocate more time to understanding the CSU Financial Statements. In particular, spend time on the various categories of sources and uses of funds and their trend over the last few years.
2. Continue identifying legislative bills of concern to the ASCSU and developing early positions on them by bringing an omnibus resolution for approval by the ASCSU at the March meeting.

3. Continue to strengthen and deepen relationships with the legislators as well as the Department of Finance and the Legislative Analyst’s Office. Selective visits to legislator’s district offices and an additional visit to Sacramento by the ASCSU leadership in the fall may be useful in this regard. Also consider visiting with the Governor.