I. Membership and Attendance

Committee:

- Thomas Krabacher (Chair), Sacramento (Geography)
- Steven Browne (Vice Chair, Fall’14), Maritime (Marine Transportation)
- Erick Eschker (Vice Chair, Spring’15), Humboldt (Economics)
- Otto Benavides, Fresno (Instructional Technology)
- David Hood, Long Beach (History)
- Eileen Klink, Long Beach (English)
- Cliona Murphy, Bakersfield (Modern Western European History)
- Barry Pasternack, ERFA (Information Systems & Decision Sciences)
- Beth Steffel, San Bernardino (Graphic Design)
- Jay Swartz, Pomona (International Business Marketing)
- Mark Richard Wheeler, San Diego (Philosophy)

Chancellor’s Office Liaisons: Ron Vogel (assisted by Ed Sullivan & Kara Perkins)
Executive Committee Liaison: Christine Miller

Guests:

- Jason Constantouros (Legislative Analyst Office), Governor’s budget proposals (Jan. & May)
- Nathan Evans (Chancellor’s Office), Denied admission of eligible students
- Paul Golaszewski (Legislative Analyst Office), Anticipated January budget proposal
- Gerry Hanley (Chancellor’s Office), Update on Wiley journal article bundling issue
- Jillian Kissee (Dept. of Finance), Governor’s proposed CSU budget
- Christopher Lief (Dept. of Finance), Governor’s proposed CSU budget
- Andrew Martinez (Chancellor’s Office), Analysis of November 2014 election results
- Andy Merrifield (CFA), CFA legislative and CBA (contract) matters
- Lori Redfearn (Chancellor’s Office), Use of campus auxiliary funds
- Ryan Storm (Chancellor’s Office), CSU Sustainability Plan
- Karen Yelverton-Zamarippa (Chancellor’s Office), Political & legislative updates

II. 2014-2015 Resolutions Recommended by the Committee

During 2014-2015 the Fiscal and Governmental Affairs Committee sent the following resolutions forward to the Academic Senate:
AS-3194-14/AA/FGA
Approved Unanimously
Response to AB 94 (Liu): Goal Setting for Academic Performance Measures for Academic Sustainability Plan
The ASCSU expresses concern over the academic performance measures mandated by AB 94 and incorporated in the November CSU Academic Sustainability Plan, and recommends formation of a task force to review the measures and propose alternatives as needed.

AS-3196-11/FGA
Approved Without Dissent
California State University (CSU) Board of Trustees Proposed 2015-2016 Support Budget
The ASCSU commends the Board of Trustees for its proposed 2015-16 support budget to be submitted to the state Department of Finance, but urges the Board to seek additional funding in the areas of tenure-track faculty hiring, deferred maintenance, and compensation.

AS-3200/FGA
Approved Unanimously
Appreciation of Support for Passage of AB 2324 (Williams) Trustees of the California State University: Faculty Member of the Board
The ASCSU expresses its deep appreciation to all those involved in securing the passage of AB 2324, including, but not limited to Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr.; Assemblymember Das Williams; Chancellor Timothy White; the CSU Board of Trustees; AVC Karen Yelverton-Zamarripa, Andrew Martinez, and Nichole Muñoz-Murillo from the CSU Office of Advocacy and Institutional Relations; campus academic senates; and the California State Student Association.

AS-3202-15/FGA
Approved
Opposition to John C. Wiley & Sons Requiring the CSU to Purchase Access to Unwanted Journals in its Bundling of Online Journals
The ASCSU voices its opposition to the decision by John C. Wiley & Sons to require the CSU to now purchase unwanted journals in its bundling of online journals, supports the decision by the CSU libraries to reject the proposed terms, and urges faculty to avoid using Wiley educational materials where possible until the issue is satisfactorily resolved.

AS-3204-15/FGA
Approved Unanimously
Initial 2015 Legislative Advocacy Positions of the California State University Academic Senate
The ASCSU adopts as its initial advocacy legislative positions the recommendations in the document “Academic Senate of the California State University, Positions on Proposed Bills in the California State Legislature – 2015.”

AS-3205-15/FGA
Approved Unanimously
Support for the “Stand with the CSU” Budget Initiative
The ASCSU urges all members of the California Legislature to support additional augmentation of the 2015-2016 support budget by at least the amount necessary ($97 million) the CSU Board of Trustees budget request, and to formally show their support by signing the letter of support for the “Stand with the CSU” initiative.
AS-3210-15/FGA
Approved Unanimously
Request for Revision to Executive Order 669 (“Leases”) Governing Campus Lease Agreements
The ASCSU requests that EO 699 be reviewed and updated to prohibit campuses or their auxiliaries from leasing space to for-profit entities that duplicate degree offerings on a campus, and that the Chancellor seek to rescind any lease agreements currently in place or under consideration that do so.

AS-3212-15/AA/FGA
Approved Unanimously
Call for Adequate and Appropriate Consultation Regarding the California Community College Pilot Baccalaureate Degree Programs
The ASCSU decries the lack of adequate consultation with the CSU as required of the California Community Colleges (CCC) Board of Governors on proposals for CCC pilot baccalaureate degrees, calls on the CCC to (1) halt implementation of any such pilot programs until such consultation takes place and (2) ensure that any such degrees avoid duplication with those offered by the CSU as required in SB 850, and directs the ASCSU Chair to speak on behalf on this resolution at the May 2015 CCC Board of Governors meeting.

III. Legislative Monitoring

The Committee, in accordance with its charge, monitored legislative activity in Sacramento and recommended to senate action on specific bills when deemed appropriate. Because January 2015 marked the beginning of the new 2015-2016 legislative session, there were no two-year bills carried over from 2014 and therefore no legislative committee action in January. The deadline for the introduction of bills to be heard by the legislature in 2015 was in late February. Following the practice established in 2013-2014, at that point in the legislative calendar the Fiscal & Governmental Affairs Committee carried out a review of all bill relating to higher education in general and the CSU in particular, and identified those of potential interest to the ASCSU. The Committee also consulted with the CSU Office of Advocacy and State Relations, the CSSA, and the CFA regarding their legislative agendas as part of this process.

Thirty-two bills were so identified and the Committee recommended positions the ASCSU should take in respect to each. These recommendations formed served as the basis for AS-3204-15 (above) approved by the Senate at its March plenary meeting. It is worth noting there were no bills of receiving high priority by the ASCSU this year. This is in contrast to 2014, which saw the introduction of AB 2324 and SB 850, both of which were the focus of considerable attention from the Academic Senate. The Committee carried out a subsequent review of the status of the identified bills prior to the May plenary meeting to see if there were any alterations in bill language that might merit a change the position adopted by the Academic Senate in March. There were none at that time.

It was an additional goal of the Committee, by working with this year’s ASCSU Legislative Specialist, to develop and make available to all senators a legislative matrix similar to the one prepared by Senator Hood for the Committee in 2011-2012, that charted the progress of individual bills through the legislative process. At the time of writing this has not yet come to fruition, although the Committee expects to have it available by the end of the first week of June.

IV. ASCSU Advocacy

The Fiscal & Governmental Affairs Committee has the responsibility for planning and coordinating Academic Senate advocacy activities. Because 2014 was an election year, the 2013-2014 California
Legislature adjourned in early September and was not in session during the rest of the Fall. As a result, ASCSU advocacy activities were confined to Spring, 2015 when the new 2014-2015 Legislature was in session. Because there were no high priority bills on ASCSU agenda this year, advocacy activities were directed primarily toward advocating for an augmentation of the Governor’s proposed CSU support budget. The Academic Senate’s primary advocacy activity was its annual spring Advocacy Day in Sacramento.

In-Sacramento Advocacy:

The ASCSU held its Spring 2015 Advocacy Day on Tuesday, April 14th. In preparation for the event a brief orientation was held for the academic senators that would be attending at the ASCSU March plenary.

The delegation consisted of eleven senators representing both the Executive and Fiscal & Governmental Affairs Committees, along with seven students and the CSSA legislative director. Visits were made to the offices of thirty-one legislators who included members of the higher education and relevant budget committees of both the Senate and Assembly as well as the leadership of both Houses. In addition, several informal, drop-in visits were made by academic senators to the offices of their local legislators.

Given the lack of priority bills on legislative calendar, the ACSU’s primary goal this year was to argue the need for an augmentation of the Governor’s proposed CSU budget, which paralleled the message being carried by other CSU stakeholders (campus delegations, unions, student groups) in preceding weeks. Much of this activity built upon the groundwork laid by the “Stand with the CSU” initiative coordinated by the CSU’s Office of Advocacy & Institutional Relations.

In most cases because of the heavy legislative committee schedule typical for April, most legislators were unavailable to meet with our delegations and the meetings took place with members of their staffs. Both verbal comments and the post-visit written reports suggest the day was a productive one. Legislators by and large were receptive the CSU budget augmentation request; in a few cases, however, the need for the CSU to improve graduation rates and reduce time to degree was raised. The general reception to the budget augmentation request – perhaps because of the repeated effect of hearing message repeated but multiple groups in preceding weeks -- was the most positive it has been in recent years.

V. Recommendations for 2015-2016

At its May 2015 meeting the Fiscal and Governmental Affairs Committee discussed recommendations for the Committee to consider 2015-2016:

1. **Time Management**: Although efforts were made to address the problem this year, time constraints proved a problem for the Committee at its meetings on several occasions, in that insufficient time was available to get through the day’s agenda. The Committee should think carefully about the number of reports, and particularly the number Time certain guests, it schedules. Not all guests may be necessary for every meeting, especially if they will also be speaking at the Senate’s plenary.

2. **Sharing of Workload**: Ways should be found to distribute Committee responsibilities more widely among Committee members in order that at least some of the preliminary work on agenda items could be done before the meeting in question. The problem with

2. **Legislative Reporting**: The Committee should work with the Academic Senate’s Legislative Specialist to maintain a process for regularly updating the full senate on legislative developments throughout the
year. The process – the ‘Matrix’ – should be in place over the summer; Fall 2015 will be a good time to prepare for implementing it again in Spring 2016.

3. **Advocacy I:** Consideration should be given to scheduling meeting with key legislators, or their staff, in the Fall as well as Spring during non-election years (such as 2015). The Fall meetings need not involve as many people, either on the ASCSU or Legislature side, but the Committee felt it important that the ASCSU make its presence known on the Capitol more frequently than once a year. Additionally, legislative schedules tend to be less frantic in the Fall and lengthier & more informed discussions are like to take place.

**NOTE:** If travel cost for this is a potential problem: consider dividing the traditional Spring advocacy day delegations into two smaller ones; one responsible for the Fall, the other for Spring.

4. **Advocacy II:** Additionally:

- Continue to invite student participation on future advocacy days; they proved to be a major asset.
- It would be helpful if the packet of Advocacy Day materials could be distributed at the time of the orientation meeting; this means that the materials need to be ready much earlier than was the case this past year; in effect, the materials need to be prepared in the fall.
- Related to the above – preparation and distribution of the packets took more time than expected; this must be allowed for.

5. **Advocacy III:** If the senate budget again permits, consider the possibility of holding small, streamlined Sacramento advocacy days in May. They need not be every year, but they could be especially useful in years when high-priority bills are on the line. As the May 2012 experience showed (for those of us who were around) Sacramento visits by a small group of experienced senators can be very effective.

6. As the 2014-15 experience showed, clarification of responsibilities of the Legislative Specialist, particularly in relation to the Fiscal & Governmental Affairs Committee, is important. They need not be the same from year to year, but they do need to be worked out early on in any given year.

-- Submitted By Thomas Krabacher
2014-2015 Fiscal & Governmental Affairs Committee Chair