Minutes
Fiscal and Governmental Affairs Committee
Academic Senate of the California State University
April 8, 2005

Present: David Hood, Thomas Krabacher, Susan McKillop, Ann Morgan, Barry Pasternack, Hank Reichman (chair)

Guests: Cristy Jensen (Executive Committee liaison)

1. Chair Reichman called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM and provided a brief overview of the agenda.

2. Agenda was approved.

3. Minutes from /9-10/05 approved.

4. Lobbying Day
   The Committee reviewed the results of the April 4-5 lobbying days in Sacramento. Regarding the issues the ASCSU wished to emphasize:
   • Budget – protecting the Governor’s Compact as a minimum funding level for 05-06: this seems pretty secure.
   • Applied Doctorate (SB 724): Evidence indicates this will be a fight given strong UC opposition, but support seemed stronger than expected. There was surprise at opposition by Carol Liu (Chair, Assembly Higher Educ. Committee) in the Assembly.

   The Committee also discussed the implications of Marshelle Thobaben being asked by Wess Larson on behalf of Karen Yelverton-Zamarippa’s office) to refrain from speaking in support of AB 1552; this was a particular problem since the Speaker’s office (who was carrying the bill) had already been informed she would speak. Possible issues resulting from this:
   • Possible damage to the ASCSU’s relations with the Speaker’s office;
   • Damage to ASCSU’s perceived position as an independent voice of the faculty;

   Chair Reichman agreed to draft a letter to the Speaker’s office and circulate it for comment.

   NOTE: One possible factor in Marshelle being asked to withdraw was the fact that FGA/the Senate did not coordinate its lobbying activities with the CSU’s Governmental Affairs office this time around.

   Discussion: What additional steps need to be taken? Possibilities include:
   • Lobby the governor’s office, as suggested by a Republican staffer (the need to counteract the influence of Trustee Hauck was seen as an issue here);
   • Contact the Republican budget analysts for both the Senate and Assembly;
   • Hold a second, mini-lobby day following the May revise; this could target just key players, such as the Governor and a few others (the “Big Five”)

   In connection with this last item it was suggested that the CFA, with its political action committee might be better equipped to do this.

   No decision was taken on possible follow-up activities.

   Chair Reichman agreed to:
   1. request that senators who participated in the Legislative Day visits provide CFA with brief summaries of their visits;
2. get out thank-you letters to those individuals with whom we met.

5. Budget:
   A. Susan McKillop provided a summary of upcoming budget-related meetings in the legislature.

   B. Although the official figures have not been released, the CSU apparently didn’t make its
      enrollment target. This will supply support for the recent LAO analysis that maintains that
      estimates of CSU enrollment demand are inflated, and may hurt the CSU’s enrollment growth
      funding in the future.

   C. YRO/Summer Session: Reportedly, a recent arbitration decision requiring summer work to be
      offered to full-time faculty first may hurt summer sessions because fewer courses will be
      scheduled for that time.

6. Legislation:
   Updates were provided on the following:
   - SB 5: The “Morrow Bill”—sense gleaned from legislative day meetings was that it wasn’t
     going anywhere & probably wouldn’t make it out of committee;
   - SB 724 (Scott) Professional Doctorate: amended to clarify that it doesn’t ask for the PhD.
   - AB 196 (Liu) on Accountability: has been amended; establishes six higher education
     priorities and a division of labor as it applies to accountability;

   No action was taken on any of the above by FGA.

   - SB 1452—Higher Education Admission Policies

     It was decided that, on this bill, Chair Reichman would send a letter to Senate Chair McNeill
     expressing FGA’s support for the legislation, but indicating it believes no resolution of
     support is necessary at this time.

7. CPEC-Related:
   A. Susan McKillop distributed a written summary of the March 22-23 CPEC meeting. She then
      walked the committee through the report.

   B. Database Privacy: (FGA was asked to look at this issue by the Executive Committee.)

      At the April 6th CPEC meeting it was announced that the UC and CSU agreed to provide
      data to permit individual student tracking. Data could be encrypted. Concerns were
      raised over this issue of privacy. (There are also broader concerns in this area given the
      recent announcement by the U.S. Department of education calling for a national student
      identifier.)

      Question: What should ASCSU do?

      Decided: Chair Reichman will send out an email to the committee to see if anyone is
      interested in working on the issue. Questions to consider should include:

      - Is there a genuine policy interest in tracking individual student progress for purposes of improving student success?
      - Have such tracking efforts now reached the points where they conflict with basic rights to privacy?

8. Budget Priorities Resolution:
   Discussion began on the FGA budget priorities resolution to be presented for action at the May
   plenary. A period of brainstorming occurred in which the following possible issues were considered
   for inclusion:

   - ACR 73
• Authentic access
• Compensation
• Restoring the SFR
• “Restoration” of past budget cuts
• Urge Trustees to seek funding beyond the Compact (CSU at a “tipping point”)

It was suggested that the first Resolved clause might run along the lines of:
“The ASCSU recognizes that the CSU is at a crisis point, as evidenced by….”

Decision: Committee members would individually start working on possible resolutions that they
would send to senfga@calstate.edu for discussion.

9. Distinguished Legislative Staff Award:
The committee agreed that the award need not be given out every year, but only when someone is
identified as deserving. FGA, however, will consider the desirability of giving the award on an
annual basis.

Next year FGA will begin the award process in the fall (possibly at the October interim?) with an
eye toward making the presentation in Sacramento on Leg Day.

-- submitted by Thomas Krabacher