



## **Fiscal and Governmental Affairs (FGA) Committee**

### **MINUTES**

Friday, February 18, 2011

10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon and 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

### ***Telephone Conference Call***

**Present:** Darlene Yee-Melichar (Chair), Edward Aguado, Michael Ault, Jim Meriwether, Dick Montanari, Catherine Nelson, Cezar Ornatowski, Praveen Soni, William Wagner, III.

**Guests:** David Hood (ASCSU Budget Specialist), Thomas Krabacher (ASCSU Executive Committee Liaison), Marsha Hirano-Nakanishi (Chancellor's Office), Margie Merryfield (Human Resources), Karen Zamarripa (AVC Advocacy and State Relations).

#### **I. Call to Order; Welcome and Introductions**

- Chair Yee-Melichar called the meeting to order at 10:15am after technical difficulties with the teleconference call dial-in.

#### **II. Announcements and Updates**

- Chair Yee-Melichar reminded everyone that help is needed in hosting the ASCSU's March social.

#### **III. Campus Reports; Liaison Reports; Member Items**

- Senator Yee-Melichar reported on a faculty reorganization referendum at San Francisco State.
- Senator Nelson announced that Sonoma State will also be going through an organizational restructure. She also mentioned that Sonoma State is moving forward with 14 faculty searches.
- Senator Montanari raised concern about a "voluntary forced" restructuring at San Marcos. He also mentioned that San Marcos is going through with 33 faculty searches.

#### **IV. Consent Calendar**

- Approval of the minutes of the January 19, 2011 FGA minutes.  
<http://www.calstate.edu/AcadSen/Committees/fga/meetings.shtml>
- Approval of the February 18, 2011 FGA Agenda  
<http://www.calstate.edu/AcadSen/Committees/fga/agendas.shtml>

**V. Consultations (please call in as needed)**

**1. Call-in (10:15am) from Margie Merryfield and Marsha Hirano-Nakanishi** from the Chancellor's Office regarding the resolution titled Support of the Development of a Consistent Methodology for the Analysis of Student-Faculty Ratio and Intra and Inter Campus Expenditures on Instruction (Montanari).

For 30 years, the Chancellor's Office has been working on standardized and consistent data collection and methodologies for calculating different comparisons across campuses. Chair Yee-Melichar asked if the wording of our resolution would be helpful – she drew focus to the Student Faculty Ratio. The Chancellor's Office staff spoke of the issue in a much broader context, beyond just SFR calculations. They also noted that the methodologies used by San Marcos are not the ones they are planning to develop. Marsha said she saw this as a moment, “where we have a shot” to make changes.

Senator Montanari commented that this has been a problem for at least five years. He emphasized the critical nature of this issue, especially during these difficult budget times. Senator Montanari mentioned that he did not advocate for any particular methodology, only that it be established.

After the call (10:30am), the committee discussed language in the resolution.

**2. David Hood, ASCSU Budget Specialist**

See VI. Fiscal Affairs below.

**3. Tom Krabacher, ASCSU Executive Committee Liaison (1pm).**

- Concerning FGA lobby day, Chair Yee-Melichar asked for Senator Krabacher's input. He provided his comments about Lobby date and offered to share a spreadsheet from the Stakeholder's Meeting with FGA.
- Senator Ornatowski asked about “charge backs” to campuses from the Chancellor's Office. He noted that these are not posted as part of the Chancellor's Office budget. Senator Krabacher reported that Executive Vice Chancellor/Chief Financial Officer Ben Quillian is scheduled to meet with the ASCSU in March. He would notify AVC Quillian before the meeting that we would like to be briefed about this.
- Legislative Matrix and Bills of Interest: See VII. Legislative Affairs below.
- Senator Soni asked about legislative bills for the FGA advocacy brochure. Chair Yee-Melichar responded that the deadline for submitting legislative bills is today so we won't have an official list until early next week. FGA will review a list and develop a matrix containing bills of interest. Senator Nelson suggested that we include the bill pertaining to the transparency, Dream Act and fees.
- The Executive Committee requested FGA to compile a list of legislative bills to report to the ASCSU.
- FGA Lobby Days Brochure: Senators Soni and Aguado reported on the brochure and the committee discussed the layout and contents of the brochure.

**4. Call-in (11:00am) from Karen Zamarripa, AVC Advocacy and State Relations**

- FGA lobby day. Her advice was that the FGA committee plan on a day different than April 5<sup>th</sup> because it is the inter-segmental lobby day.
- She also reported that April 5<sup>th</sup> is the second inter-segmental lobby day. The message of the day is “who the heck knows,” but CSU will continue to talk about the value added by a college education. It will be difficult to know exactly what “they’ll pitch” because of budget uncertainties. She also mentioned that the ASCSU Senate Executive Committee will be invited but it is unclear what delegation they will join.
- Legislative bill on Auxiliary Transparency and Accountability. She said the CSU BOT will have a bill on transparency and will oppose State Senator Yee’s bill on transparency.
- Senator Aguado asked about the sentiment in Sacramento concerning the Governor’s proposed ballot initiatives. She reported that it is “50/50” at this time for the Republicans. She also mentioned several obstacles to the approval of these budget initiatives, and according to several polls, only 43 percent of the public is in favor of the initiatives.
- FGA decided to change our Lobby Day from April 5 to April 12. We will need to know if members of the Executive Committee and ASCSU Sacramento State senators are available to join us.

## **VI. Fiscal Affairs**

- Support of the Development of a Consistent Methodology for the Analysis of Student-Faculty Ratio and Intra and Inter Campus Expenditures on Instruction: Montanari (see Consultation V-1 above).
- FGA discussed CSU’s Access to Excellence system-wide strategic plan and recent California Post-Secondary Education Commission (CPEC) meeting report. Senator Ornatowski discussed his report from the December 2010 CPEC meeting. He raised concerns about the implications of Ken O’Donnell’s report to CPEC. Chair Yee-Melichar will invite Ken O’Donnell to the FGA meeting in March for further discussion.
- FGA response to Cal Poly Pomona email regarding the CSU budget crisis in relation to the following article:  
<http://thepioneeronline.com/editorials/2011/01/let%E2%80%99s-be-honest-about-the-csu-budget-cuts-started-before-brown%E2%80%99s-budget/>.

Chair Yee-Melichar reported that she had been contacted by Dr. Barry Soroka, Chair of the Academic Senate Budget Committee at Cal Poly Pomona asking about Henry Reichman’s article and claims. ASCSU Budget Specialist David Hood explained:

- a. the percentage of the budget that is made up of salaries, and.
- b. how large a percentage reduction is the Gov’s proposal.

Senator Hood said it depends on the denominator. He says that there are layers and layers of complexity to this. For example, in budget income, they list all

student fees and the CSU is setting aside 25-30% for student scholarships. Therefore, the money should not be included in the calculations. If it is included then the total income is larger. Senator Montanari asked, if the 30% is collected as fees, then it goes back to a campus. He says that campuses do get that money, and therefore it should be included. There was an exchange between Senator Hood and Senator Montanari concerning the analogy of loaning \$100 to a friend. Senator Soni joined the discussion asking Budget Specialist Hood to further explain this issue. Senator Nelson mentioned that the real issue is CFA and CSU are using different numbers. Senator Meriwether reminded the committee that he originally asked for more analysis so that Senators can provide information to their own campuses. Senator Aguado responded that it's a campus-wide decision because the campuses are the ones who decide how the cuts will be made. Chair Yee-Melichar responded that we are dealing with "moving targets" given the state fiscal situation. Specifically, she indicated that CSU may be dealing with up to a \$1B budget cut if the June special election doesn't happen or if the Governor's ballot initiative for extending revenue taxes is not passed. And the CSU may be dealing with a federal cut into Pell grants for students. Moreover, she reminded everyone that our campuses are going to be the ones to implement the final decisions. Senator Ornatowski claimed all campuses have been asked to submit their plan to deal with \$500 million cuts. Senator Nelson summarized: we want to hold the admin accountable and also make a good case to the public. Senator Ornatowski responded that according to administrators on his campus, the Chancellor's Office hides the real budget from the public.

After much discussion, the committee decided to respond to Cal Poly's request. Chair Yee-Melichar will draft a brief response to Cal Poly Pomona for the committee to review and send out.

- FGA discussion of recent CSU Board of Trustees' Committee on Finance Report (<http://www.calstate.edu/bot/agendas/Jan11/Finance.pdf>)

## **VII. Governmental Affairs**

- Planning for ASCSU's FGA Lobby Day  
Logistical arrangements: Krabacher (see Consultation V-3 above).  
Legislative matrix and bills of interest: Hood, Nelson (See Consultation V-2 above).  
FGA advocacy brochure: Soni, Aguado (see Consultation V-1 above).  
Schedule of legislative visits: Barrett, Krabacher, Yee-Melichar (see Consultation V-3 above).
- FGA discussion of recent CSU Board of Trustees' Committee on Governmental Relations Report (<http://www.calstate.edu/bot/agendas/Jan11/GovRel.pdf>)
  - a. The CSU BOT will be sponsoring a resolution concerning Auxiliary Transparency and Accountability.
- FGA discussion of CFA's 2011 Faculty/Staff Submitted Legislative Proposals

- b. The committee considered some of the proposals put forth by John Travis (CFA) distributed at the last meeting.
  - c. Senator Ault raised the issue of the Oil Severance Tax Proposal and asked if the committee was interested in addressing this CFA bill. Senator Nelson and Senator Ault will draft a resolution by the March FGA committee meeting.
  - d. Senator Meriwether will work on a resolution concerning the Extended Education Student Fees.
- FGA discussion of CSSA's University Affairs Action Plan
    - Chair Yee-Melichar met with Neil Sanchez, CSSA's student representative, concerning the following two issues: Affordable Learning Campaign; and Standardization of Student Response Systems
    - FGA will co-sponsor AS-3007-10/AA (Support for the CSSA Resolution Calling for the Standardization of Student Response Systems)

**VIII. Collaboration with Other Committees (as warranted)**

- Academic Affairs (co-sponsor AS-3000-10/AA, Support for Adequate Resources for CSU Libraries, and AS-3007-10/AA)
- Faculty Affairs (Extended University: State vs. Self-Support Programs)

**IX. Action Items (assignments for writing resolutions, summaries, etc)**

- AS-3006-10/FGA, Support of the Development of a Consistent Methodology for the Analysis of Student-Faculty Ratio and Intra and Inter Campus Expenditures on Instruction: Senators Montanari, Aguado
- Resolution on CSU's Access to Excellence systemwide strategic plan in relation to recent CPEC meeting report, if any: Senator Ornatowski
- Co-sponsor AS-3000-10/AA and AS-3007-10/AA: Senators Barrett, Ornatowski.
- FGA response to Cal Poly Pomona email: Senators Yee-Melichar, Barrett.
- Legislative Matrix and bills of interest: Senators Hood, Krabacher, Yee-Melichar
- FGA advocacy brochure: Senators Soni, Aguado.
- FGA action CSU Board of Trustees' Committee on Finance/Committee on Governmental Relations Reports
- FGA action on CFA's 2011 Faculty/Staff Submitted Legislative Proposals
- FGA action on CSSA's University Affairs Action Plan

**X. New Business**

- Please let Chair Yee-Melichar if you are not able to attend ASCSU Lobby Day on April 12.
- Schedule of legislative visits: Senators Barrett, Krabacher, Yee-Melichar.
- FGA briefly discussed the LAO report "The Master Plan at 50: Guaranteed Regional Access Needed for State Universities. Senator Aguado suggested that we review page 20 focusing on the LAO recommendations. Senators Aguado and Onatowski will share further comments and suggestions with us at our next meeting.

**XI. Adjournment**

- The Committee adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

*-- Submitted by Michael Ault*