

## Fiscal and Governmental Affairs

### MINUTES

Thursday, January 22, 2009: 11:00 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.

**Members present:** Buckley Barrett, Tom Krabacher, Otto Benavides, Diana Guerin, David Hood, Fred Hornbeck, Dick Montanari, Catherine Nelson, Praveen Soni

**Guests present:** Jerry Shapiro, Barry Pasternack, Allison Jones, and John Travis; via teleconference: Karen Zamarripa, Robert Turnage

1. **Call to order**

Meeting was called to order at 11:00.

2. **Agenda**

Approved as presented.

3. **Conference call:** December 12, 2008

Minutes approved as presented.

4. **Announcements:**

No announcements.

5. **Visitor Communications**

a. CO/FGA Liaison, AVC Allison Jones

Allison distributed a draft of his presentation to the BOT. He also answered members' questions about funding for Cal Grants.

b. CFA , John Travis

John made a few comments about the state budget. CFA commissioned a report by Tom Mortenson (Pell Institute) and encouraged us to read it at the CFA website. The report outlines and emphasizes California's precipitous decline in higher education opportunities and effectiveness over the last 25-plus years. CFA passed a resolution at its last Assembly calling for new commitment to higher education at the federal level. It called for an investment of \$70 billion in higher education nationally.

CFA is concerned about a ballot initiative circulating that calls for an increase in the state sales tax 1.5% for K-14. It will be discussed at CTA state meeting next weekend.

CFA is now in the process of establishing its legislative platform for the year.

Recommendations will be taken to Board early in February. Shortly thereafter the CFA will make its recommendations on pending legislation. Both will be posted to the CFA website.

We are at impasse in bargaining with the CSU regarding compensation. CFA BOT is now discussing the next step to take in this process.

c. CO/AIR, AVC Karen Y. Zamarripa, CO/Budget AVC Robert Turnage

Via teleconference: Karen has sent us a list of legislators to target during our visit in April. Connie Conway from Visalia area should be added to this list. She is vice chair of Higher Education Committee. They are hoping that Paul Cook stays on Higher Education Committee. She is still waiting for the full committee list for the Assembly, who should also be contacted. Her office is currently working to meet the 28 new members. Bills must be introduced by 28<sup>th</sup> of February. At this point, about 10 bills appear to be of concern to CSU. One bill introduced by Marty Block is to conduct a feasibility study to build a campus in Chula Vista. Another bill proposes to award honorary degrees to those who attended CSU but were interred during WWII. A couple of bills have been introduced by Duvall (AB 69) regarding caps and fee policies. Karen will post bills and analyses toward the end of February.

She and Robert cautiously expect that a 17-month state budget plan will likely come together in the next few weeks.

Karen sees ongoing press about three issues: (1) affordability of textbooks and what we have done regarding the State Auditor's Report; (2) about CTE; and (3) for student tracking systems from K-12 to higher education, and then to employment.

d. **Exec. Comm. (B. Pasternack)**

Barry reported that Exec hopes this will be our last abbreviated meeting and that next month the ASCSU will go back to normal. He also expects that FGA will know shortly whether or not we will be able to visit Sacramento in April. Finally, Barry asked the committee to consider endorsing a change to EO 802 to allow the CSU to charge students full fees when they repeat courses.

Barry was asked to convey a request to Exec to communicate more frequently with the senators as to what Exec Committee is doing.

e. **Standing Committees (if needed)**

6. **Career Tech Ed (Krabacher)**

Tom distributed a report ("Career Technical Education Update") that he shared with Executive Committee this morning. He referred members to the Trustee's agenda item for more information. This issue is whether or not career tech courses can be used to meet the A-G admission requirements for UC and CSU. He referred members to recent state legislation pertaining to CTE described on pages 2 and 3 in his report, particularly AB 1586 which proposed to put approval of CTE courses in the hands of the State Board of Education (AB 1586 was defeated). Tom recommends several actions on the final two pages of his report. Committee expects this will continue to be an issue of focus this year for several of our ASCSU committees.

Robert was asked about his report to the Legislature on 9 January. He touched on budget implications of employee contracts and managing student enrollment. He has not received any feedback yet.

Buckley asked them to put the 18<sup>th</sup> of March on their agenda to speak with us and also for our visit to the Capitol on 14 or 15 April.

7. **CSU Quality Statistics Dashboard (Nelson, Guerin)**

Catherine will try to contact Mike McLean regarding CSU data. Diana will compare indicators to those in Access to Excellence.

8. **Liaison report to/from Academic Affairs, Faculty Affairs, etc.** (Montanari)

No report.

9. **ASCSU Budget Specialist Report** (Hood)

David reviewed materials distributed to the committee regarding the state budget situation. The LAO reports on the budget and cash flow have already been released. The LAO projects a \$42 billion deficit over the next 18 months ending 30 June 2010.

10. **Other Business**

11. **Recommendations**

- a. Protecting Instruction during Times of Budget Crisis (2<sup>nd</sup>: FA lead, FGA co.)
- b. Campus Faculty Consultation in Budget Decisions  
Committee agreed to present a resolution (with a waiver). Montanari drafted this item for presentation Friday.
- c. Response to CFA/Pell Report on “Calif. at the Edge of a Cliff ...”  
Tom discussed possible options. Committee agreed to have a resolution for March plenary commending the CFA for commissioning the report and the author of the report for his high-quality work. Also, FGA will utilize key highlights of the report within our talking points during the April visit to the Capitol.
- d. Response to Carnegie Corp. Letter to Pres. Obama on H.E. Investment Act  
Fred drafted a resolution in support of the Higher Education Investment Act. Minor amendments were made. Committee voted unanimously to support the resolution as amended and to ask for a waiver.
- e. Concern over Governor’s Proposed Cuts to Cal Grants  
Fred cited a story in the Sacramento Bee that Cal Grants remain available for students who meet the criteria and apply by the deadline. It was noted as well that some campuses will attempt certain loans in lieu of these grants and that re-payment may be waived if sufficient state funds later appear. Committee will continue to monitor this issue and take no action at this time.
- f. Concern for Proposed Reduction of K-13 Instruction Days (APEP)  
Committee voted without dissent to co-sponsor the resolution (with a waiver) with APEP.
- g. Other/TBD: FGA or from/with AA, APEP, FA, Exec. Comm.

12. **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted by Diana Guerin*