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Report of the meeting of the Board of Trustees July 19-20, 2005

Craig Smith, Faculty Trustee

The Board of Trustees met at the office of the Chancellor on July 19-20, 2005, which was my first meeting as the new faculty trustee. The full Board agenda can be viewed at www.calstate.edu/BOT/agendas. Full reports can be found there also. There was a closed meeting of the Board concerning personnel matters and presidential evaluations, which I attended, and then a closed meeting on bargaining, from which I am legally precluded.

The public meeting then began with the CSU presidents, members of the Statewide Academic Senate's executive committee, members of the California State Student Association's (CSSA) executive committee, members of the Chancellor's staff, and the public in attendance.

The important items considered by the Committee on Campus Planning, Buildings and Grounds included receiving the California Environmental Quality Act Annual Report. The Committee also reviewed information and public comment on the Final Environmental Impact report concerning the plan to increase enrollment at San Diego State University. It voted to postpone action until the September meeting on this item. It certified and approved the Final Environmental Impact Report regarding the enrollment ceiling change at CSU Chico. The Committee received a status report on the 2005/6 state funded capital outlay program. The Trustees' request was increased from \$289 million to \$343.4 million by the governor and approved by the legislature. It received a report on energy conservation, sustainable building practices, and physical plant management. It reviewed and renewed its categories and criteria for the state funded, five-year capital improvement program. It approved the schematic plans for new buildings at CSU Fullerton.

The important items considered by the Committee on Institutional Advancement included approving the naming of the Yadunandan Center for Indian Studies at CSU Long Beach, the Mary and Jack Bayramian Hall at CSU Northridge, and the Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation Institute on Tribal Gaming at San Diego State University.

The important items considered by the Committee on Finance included a status report on the 2005/6 Support Budget, approval of issuance of system wide bonds for a project at Sonoma State University, and auxiliary financing at CSU Fullerton.

The important items considered by the Committee on University and Faculty Personnel included a proposed updating in the Title 5 Conflict of Interest Code and creating an official president's residence at San Jose State University.

The Committee on Organization and Rules made permanent a pilot program to move the public comments before the plenary session of the Board to its formal beginning time instead of toward its end. The public comment period is limited to 30 minutes but the chair of the Board can extend the time at his discretion.

The Audit Committee received a report on the internal audit assignments and selected an external auditor for the system.

The Committee on Governmental Relations discussed the 2005/6 legislative report (number 4). I recommend you examine the following bills:

AB 706 & 708: Whistleblower Protection

SB 724: To allow the CSU to offer Ed.D degrees. (See amendments and agreements that changed the scope of the original bill.)

AB 196 & 1072, which would change the charge of the California Postsecondary Education Commission to develop and administer an accountability structure for the state's postsecondary educational institutions. (This looks dangerous.) The second bill would change the name of CPEC to the California Commission on Higher Education.

SB 5, which would create a student bill of rights that might allow students to by-pass on campus remedies for grievances. The bill might make the campuses into pools of litigation.

The Committee on Educational Policy heard a report on how to deal with alcohol abuse on our campuses, our number one problem, according to the Chancellor. It also heard a report on the proposed changes and updates of the Student Code of Conduct. Several questions raised First Amendment concerns about possible vague language in the Code. The General Counsel agreed to confer with the Statewide Academic Senate and the Center for First Amendment Studies (CSULB) among others. The Committee heard reports on facilitating graduation and for the first time were introduced to a time-line that neither the Board nor the Statewide Academic Senate had reviewed. The Committee passed a resolution recognizing the faculty for leadership and support for trustee graduation initiatives. Between the Statewide Senate and the Board, there was a celebration of shared governance.

At the plenary session, chaired by Murray L. Galinson, Shailesh J. Mehta and Anthony M. Vitti were given the title of Trustee Emeritus. Commendation was given to Student Trustee Eric Z. Guerra and Trustee Larry Adamson. The motions and reports from each of the above committees were approved. The Chancellor reported on the compact with the Governor.

With Marshelle Thobaben, Chair, Academic Senate CSU, I hope that I can visit your campus soon. We need invitations from the campus presidents in order to proceed.