

AGENDA

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY AND FINANCE

Meeting: 1:40 p.m., Tuesday, January 28, 2025
Glenn S. Dumke Conference Center

Committee on Educational Policy

Diego Arambula, Chair
Darlene Yee-Melichar, Vice Chair
Raji Kaur Brar
Douglas Faigin
Wenda Fong
Mark Ghilarducci
Lillian Kimbell
Jonathan Molina Mancio
Sam Nejabat
Yammilette Rodriguez
Christopher Steinhauser

Committee on Finance

Julia I. Lopez, Chair
Jonathan Molina Mancio, Vice Chair
Larry L. Adamson
Douglas Faigin
Mark Ghilarducci
Leslie Gilbert-Lurie
Jack McGrory
Anna Ortiz-Morfit
Christopher Steinhauser
Darlene Yee-Melichar

- Consent** 1. Approval of Minutes, *Action*
- Discussion** 2. CSU Artificial Intelligence (AI) Strategy, *Information*

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
JOINT COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY AND FINANCE**

**Trustees of The California State University
Office of the Chancellor
Glenn S. Dumke Conference Center
401 Golden Shore
Long Beach, California**

November 20, 2024

Members Present

Committee on Educational Policy

Diego Arambula, Chair
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Raji Kaur Brar
Douglas Faigin
Wenda Fong
Mark Ghilarducci
Sam Nejabat
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Christopher Steinhauser
Darlene Yee-Melichar

Mildred García, Chancellor
Jack B. Clarke, Jr., Chair of the Board

Trustee Arambula called the meeting to order.

Consent Agenda

The minutes of the September 24, 2024, meeting of the Joint Committee on Educational Policy and Finance were approved as submitted.

Item 2 – Integration of California State University Maritime Academy and California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

The integration of California State University Maritime Academy and California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo was presented for approval. The integration will help expand access to a diverse student body as well as support the maritime industry that is so critical to our state's economy and to the nation. An update on the work of the pre-integration workgroups was provided. It was reported that 23 workgroups, formed with subject matter experts from both universities and the Chancellor's Office, were tasked with identifying the five most important

integration-related issues for their respective groups. In the next phase of the process seven functional implementation teams (FIT teams) will focus on the issues identified by the workgroups to help develop the foundation of the implementation plan. Specific to student and faculty engagement, a team of associated students has been engaged to provide an analysis of the ASI fee and ASI governance structure and a team of eight faculty leaders has been engaged to provide an analysis of the Academic Senate governance structure and assessment of the academic programs and curricula. The FIT teams will make recommendations for accountability measures and an update will be presented at the May 2025 Board of Trustees meeting.

Cal Poly's President Jeffrey Armstrong stated that if approved, the two institutions will operate as a single university named California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo (Cal Poly), with the current 92-acre Cal Maritime property being named the Cal Poly, Solano Campus. Cal Poly, Solano Campus will be administered under the leadership of a vice president who will report to the president and serve as a member of the Cal Poly leadership team. The academic program that administers the merchant mariner license-track programs and the training vessels will be known as the Cal Poly Maritime Academy and will be led by a superintendent. He also talked about plans to market to students including targeted outreach and increased financial aid support to expand access.

Following the presentation Trustee Fong asked if majors will be expanded at Maritime Academy and was informed that the Cal Poly, Solano Campus will expand offerings for the Maritime Academy programs as well as allow use of the property for programs outside the Mariner Merchant licensed program. She asked who will hire the vice president and superintendent and was informed that both will be hired in consultation with Presidents Armstrong and Dumont, Chancellor García, and her leadership team. Furthermore, it was shared that the Secretary of Transportation has authority to appoint the superintendents for the six U.S. maritime academies, and although there is no requirement for the superintendent to have a military background, ideally, they should understand the U.S. Maritime industry, have a license to operate vessels, and experience in operating a cadet program.

Trustee McGrory expressed support for the integration. Lieutenant Governor Eleni Kounalakis expressed appreciation for the creative thinking and willpower dedicated to make this reform possible. Vice Chair Arambula encouraged the development of creative solutions to better support students and be more financially efficient. Trustee Yee-Melichar also shared her support for the integration and asked if consideration has been given to how the integration may impact students and campus culture. She was assured that impact is continuously considered. One way Cal Poly will help minimize impacts to students is by offering financial aid and scholarships to Maritime Academy students that enrolled prior to the integration. To help minimize the impact to campus culture, starting this year the campus was opened to traditional (non-uniform) students. Trustee Yee-Melichar requested that information be included in the next update on impending strategies to engage students, faculty, and staff outside of the work groups in developing a unified shared governance structure.

Trustee Lopez asked the two presidents to share their three biggest challenges. President Armstrong's responses included: diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging; competitive pay for faculty and staff; and the state's support of the CSU. Interim President Dumont's responses included: ensuring that Maritime's faculty and staff are appropriately involved in the evolution of the integration; urgency of the integration in order to be able to operate and accommodate the new ship being built by the federal government for California; and concern that many students may not know of the program. Trustee Lopez requested a post-integration assessment to share lessons learned and help identify issues more proactively in the future.

In response to questions raised by Trustee Faigin it was confirmed that the integration will result in 22 universities, effective July 1, 2025. Regarding marketing plans for increasing enrollment, it was shared that engineering and sustainable energy will be some of the programs marketed and recruited for across the Cal Poly locations, another will be specific to the Maritime Academy license track majors. Another effort to increase enrollment will include providing financial assistance to students for room and board costs which are a major barrier for location bound students interested in pursuing these majors.

Trustee Gilbert-Lurie made comments regarding the need to advocate for additional federal funding to support the Maritime program and Interim President Dumont shared the various efforts underway with Congress and the various Maritime Academies as well as information on federal reimbursement of expenses. She requested more information on where cost savings will be achieved and was informed that roughly \$29 million dollars will be avoided annually by integrating operations of the two campuses and that additional savings could be realized by creating efficiencies in various administrative areas. She also asked if additional financial aid money would be needed and was informed that no additional funds will be needed past the first five years included in the integration proposal.

Trustee Guajardo asked how accreditation is being handled and was informed that WASC has been made aware of the intent to integrate and their requirements have been incorporated into the planning timelines. She also asked if Maritime Academy programs offer licensing to undocumented or DACA students. It was shared that students must be U.S. citizens to complete the Maritime licensing programs and receive their license since passports are required for international voyages, however undocumented students can take the courses.

Trustee Rodriguez asked how community partners and alumni are being engaged in the integration process. It was shared that alums have been leading many of the community outreach efforts and that the California Community Colleges, workforce development partners, and foundation board members have been engaged. Trustee Vargas encouraged the rebranding and marketing.

The action item was approved by roll call vote with 16 in favor (Trustees Arambula, Yee-Melichar, Brar, Faigin, Fong, Ghilarducci, Nejabat, Rodriguez, Steinhauer, Lopez, Adamson, Gilbert-Lurie, McGrory, Ortiz-Morfit, Chair Clarke and Chancellor García), zero opposed, zero abstentions (REP/FIN 11-24-02).

Item 3 – Annual Systemwide Report on Hate Incidents on Campus

A report on the number of reported hate crimes and hate violence incidents reported on CSU campuses for 2023 was provided. CSU's Chief Compliance Officer Melinda Latas shared that universities reported a total of 13 hate crimes and three incidents of hate violence that meet the specific statutory reporting criteria required by the California Penal Code and Education code. She also provided broader context including a disaggregate analysis of the number of reported incidents and the statutory definition of hate crimes.

Interim Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student, Equity and Belonging Ray Murillo described what the CSU is doing to prevent these incidents and how students who are subjected to all forms of hate and bias are supported. Campus and systemwide civil rights teams promote equity and inclusion practices among staff by conducting training and outreach, as well as ensure compliance with the CSU Nondiscrimination Policy. Residential life and housing operations include student educational programs aimed at combating discrimination and fostering welcoming communities. In the area of support, university multicultural and identity-based student centers, and offices of student life, provide vital ongoing support for students. Mr. Murillo explained that when incidents occur, CSU employees respond with care, compassion, and concern. Further strategic communication efforts are led by the university president when incidents of hate violence occur. Other interventions include addressing hateful language and behaviors before they escalate to a crime, protecting student's rights through policies and providing a complaint process. To provide the campus perspective, Assistant Vice President of Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity Cecil Chik from California State University, Fullerton shared some of the high impact practices used at CSU Fullerton to foster an inclusive campus climate for all.

Following the presentation, several trustees commented that more incidents may have occurred than reported due to the narrow statutory definition of hate incidents. Trustee Lopez requested that in the future more than three years data be provided for context. Trustee McGrory suggested adding categories of incident reporting across the system to better inform trustees of what is going on at campuses year to year, while maintaining compliance with the statutory definition. He was informed that additional complaints of non-criminal or non-violent harassment based on bias against a protected status will be represented in a future report to the Committee on University and Faculty Personnel on the results of the Civil Rights Annual Report Survey.

Chair Clarke requested more information on training and techniques used to ensure student safety, such as crisis management and conflict resolution. Dr. Chik shared that at CSU Fullerton training is offered to staff and students on how to have productive dialogue around addressing bias on campus. Trustee Brar suggested expanding the categorization of students' origins so that interventions and response efforts can be aligned with the specific needs of all students.

Trustee Yee-Melichar asked what methods are used to ensure equitable support and response across the 23 campuses and was informed that while financial resources vary across the campuses the Chancellor's Office proactively offers education to support campus staff who are responsible for campus safety and interventions. This includes facilitating training and sharing of

best practices between CSU institutions at affinity group meetings and regular scheduled one-on-one check-ins with subject matter experts at the Chancellor's Office. She also asked about the coordination between campus administration, security, and local law enforcement. She was informed that campus security annually requests and reviews information provided by local law enforcement in conjunction with its own reports and with various other related campus reports to determine which incidents meet the criteria for reporting.

Trustee Gilbert-Lurie requested that data available to date or current year projections be included in future reports if possible. She also asked what type of community activities are taking place to support cultural intelligence on campus. A few examples are efforts around shared experience, tying speakers to classroom lectures for increased awareness, and common practice in programming for cultural and identity centers. Deputy Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Dilcie Perez added that there are diversity officers at every campus to help students as things happen daily and that more information on their efforts will be shared at future meetings.

Trustee Arambula adjourned the meeting of the Joint Committee on Educational Policy and Finance.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY AND FINANCE

CSU Artificial Intelligence (AI) Strategy

Presentation By

Steve Relyea
Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer

Nathan Evans
Deputy Vice Chancellor and Chief Academic Officer

Ed Clark
Chief Information Officer

Summary

This agenda item provides information on the California State University Artificial Intelligence (AI) Strategy: "The AI-Empowered CSU." The CSU is embarking on a bold strategy to ensure that the system remains on the forefront of technology innovation in education, that our students have the access to the tools and learning opportunities to be successful, and that the workforce development for the state of California continues to be driven by the CSU.

The presentation will cover our emerging AI Strategy and key initiatives, informed by recommendations from the CSU Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) Committee and CSU stakeholders, as well as our industry partners.

Background

Generative AI refers to artificial intelligence systems that can create new content such as data, text, images, music, computer code, or videos based on patterns learned from training data. These systems use sophisticated technologies to generate original content that can be used in many contexts, from academia to the workforce. Generative AI is a broad-reaching disruptive force in U.S. higher education, with implications to all facets of its institutions. Generative AI requires a dramatic shift in pedagogical practice that policies, norms, and tools will struggle to keep pace with. However, Generative AI also presents opportunities to enhance the student experience, support student success, and to improve productivity for faculty and staff. The CSU Generative AI Committee generated a report of findings and recommendations in summer 2024, which has informed the AI strategy and initiatives that will be presented to the Board of Trustees.

The CSU's AI Strategy outlines a vision and roadmap to enable our institution to produce the best prepared, most diverse graduates for an AI-enabled workforce, at an unprecedented scale, in an optimized and cost-efficient way. We will do so by:

Establishing the CSU-Industry AI Workforce Acceleration Board.

Leaders from the AI Industry technology sector will join with the State and the CSU system to collaborate on and advance workforce development initiatives that align with California's higher education mission of equitable access and ensure that AI-related opportunities are accessible to all California. The board will include members of Governor Newsom's cabinet, key CSU stakeholders, and representatives from leading AI technology industry partners, such as Microsoft, Adobe, AWS, Google, Meta, Open AI, Instructure, LinkedIn, and Nvidia.

Providing equitable access to cutting edge tools and training for students.

Utilizing our scale, the CSU will provide equitable access to tools, development platforms, and training to create AI learning experiences for our students to prepare them to be the future of California's AI-enabled workforce.

Supporting faculty and incentivizing instructional innovation.

Focusing on the needs of faculty and in consultation with key stakeholders, the CSU will support the integration of AI into teaching and learning by providing resources, and incentivizing faculty development and innovations in teaching with AI.