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ASCSU Chair's Report

Steven Filling
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Welcome to fall and another academic year ripe with possibilities and challenges. As the new year starts we welcome Executive Vice Chancellor Loren Blanchard to the CSU. One of Dr. Blanchard's tasks this year will be leading the development of an organizational structure that reflects his responsibilities for the combination of Academic Affairs and Student Affairs. Loren has committed to meeting with the Executive Committee and to visiting each plenary. Yesterday Loren and the Executive Committee discussed shared governance, definitions of student success and other issues. We look forward to working with Dr. Blanchard to further expand the capabilities of the CSU.

The following report highlights activities since our May plenary and requests your considered counsel on several issues.

ICAS draft Statement on Natural Science Competencies

The Intersegmental Council of Academic Senates [ICAS] last met in June. At that meeting Chair responsibilities passed to UC. The Council continues to discuss the work of the California Open Education Resources Council, degree parameters for the California Community Colleges Baccalaureate Degree Pilot Programs, and the plethora of legislation affecting public higher education in California.

ICAS is requesting review of the draft Statement on Natural Science Competencies Expected of Entering Freshmen, which was originally issued in 1988. You will find the draft statement in the ASCSU September Materials folder on Dropbox at the following link:
<http://tinyurl.com/ASCSUSept15>

CCC Baccalaureate Programs

The CCC continues to move forward with development of the 15 pilot baccalaureate degree programs. As you're aware, last spring Chancellor White and CCC Chancellor Harris agreed that CSU and CCC would engage in further conversations about four of the programs in pursuit of resolving concerns about duplication of CSU programs and curriculum. We will be contacting the campuses objecting to those four programs in the next few weeks to begin that process. The four programs are Automotive Technology [Rio Hondo College], Interaction Design [Santa Monica College], Occupational Studies [Santa Ana College] and Respiratory Care [Modesto Junior College].

WICHE

Pursuant to AS 3206-15, CSU Involvement in the WICHE Passport Project, we communicated with WICHE leadership about the level of involvement of ASCSU and the CSU in the Passport Project. WICHE has modified their web-based materials in line with our request and those materials now accurately reflect our involvement in the Passport Project conversations.

Tenure Density

The Chancellor's Office response to AS-3207-15, Call for a Plan to Increase Tenure Density in the California State University, agreed that there is a need to increase tenure density but declined to commit to the proposed

goals and metrics. At the July meeting of the Trustees I requested that the Board establish metrics for progress on this issue. Board Chair Monville acknowledged the need for metrics and stated that the Board would review the issue and would likely be asking that Chancellor's Office staff develop metrics and provide the Board with periodic reports on progress in increasing tenure density.

Draft Report of the Ethnic Studies Task Force

As I reported to you earlier, we convinced leadership of the task force to extend the deadline for comment on the draft report to 30 September. Please peruse the report, disseminate it at your campus, and share your comments before 30 September. The draft report is available in the ASCSU September Materials folder on Dropbox at the following link:

<http://tinyurl.com/ASCSUSept15>

Draft Report of the Sustainable Financial Model Task Force

Vice Chancellor and CFO Steve Relyea will be visiting our plenary on Friday morning to present an overview of the contents of the draft report and the task force is soliciting comments on the report. Please peruse the report and share your comments before the end of September. The draft report is available in the ASCSU September Materials folder on Dropbox at the following link:

<http://tinyurl.com/ASCSUSept15>

Shared Governance

One of our continuing focuses is on maintaining and enhancing shared governance in the CSU. There is a strong tradition of shared governance both at the system and campus levels and we will be working this year to further develop that tradition. Several of our campuses have faced campus climate issues and are actively engaged in collecting data and developing responses to the challenges they face.

San Bernardino - the provost was dismissed. I'll ask Senators Steffel and Ullman to give us a brief update on the situation at San Bernardino.

Chico - interim provost appointed permanent without consultation and in complete violation of policy. At this point I'll ask Senators Schulte and Selvester to give us brief update on the situation at Chico.

Campus Senate Chairs will be meeting on 8 October. It was clear last year that faculty voice was stronger and more influential when the Campus Chairs spoke in concert with ASCSU and we will be working to keep the Chairs group up to date on the issues we address and actively working with them and the campus senates to further shared governance and the importance of faculty counsel on University affairs.

Campus Visits

In pursuit of enhancing our joint work with campus senates, I recently visited Chico to participate in an Open Forum on Campus Climate issues. I want to thank Senators Schulte and Selvester and the Chico Senate for their hospitality and continuing work on campus climate issues there. I will be visiting the Humboldt and Pomona campus Senates in September to discuss campus and system initiatives and governance. The Executive Committee has prioritized building ASCSU relationships with campus senates and we will be working toward that end throughout the year. One of our projects for this year is creating mechanisms by which we can share "best practices" in governance across our campuses.

Presidential Searches

Four campus presidents have announced that they will be leaving their positions. CSU will be engaging in searches for the next president of those campuses. Currently CSU policy is that the nature of presidential searches, that is whether the search is open or closed, is a case by case decision. Please participate in those search processes and encourage your colleagues to do so as well.

ZOOM

We will be using Zoom conferencing software for our interim meetings. Zoom is available for Windows PCs, Linux computers, Apple computers, iPhones, Android phones and other platforms. A couple senators have inquired about the training needed to use Zoom. One of the reasons we chose to use Zoom is that it is well-designed and seems intuitive, but just to make sure senators are comfortable - please contact me if you are having difficulties and we'll find a time to get you connected.

Academic Conference

Vice Chair Miller and I met with Chancellor's Office staff and reviewed outcomes data on our 2014 Academic Conference recently. It is clear that those attending the conference found it valuable and look forward to future conferences. We have convened the Conference Planning Committee for the next Academic Conference, which is tentatively scheduled for Spring 2017.

Thanks for all that you do for our students, our universities and our communities.

As always, please feel free to contact me via email [sfilling@mac.com] or phone [209.988.8256] if you have questions, concerns or suggestions on these or any other issues.