

ASCSU Chair's Report
December 2017
Christine M. Miller

It has been my privilege to represent the Academic Senate of the California State University between our last plenary meeting and the present. I offer the following listing of my activities followed by summary and commentary on key issues that arose during that time.

Meetings and Activities

November

- Board of Trustees in Long Beach
- Executive Committee (virtual)
- California State Student Association in San Luis Obispo
- Legislative Analyst's Office discussion of online education (virtual)
- Academic Council in San Francisco
- Sustainable Financial Model Work Group in Long Beach
- Campus senate chairs in Long Beach

Upcoming

- ASCSU interim (virtual)
- Senate Select Committee on Student Success hearing in Santa Monica
- Meeting with Chancellor White and others in Long Beach
- Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates (ICAS) in Sacramento
- General Education Task Force in Long Beach
- ICAS legislative visits in Sacramento
- Academic Council in Sacramento
- Sustainable Financial Model Work Group in Long Beach
- Alumni Council (virtual)
- General Education Task Force in Sacramento

Key Issues

Shared Governance

The Executive Committee has been discussing how to proceed with the November plenary motion directing us to confer with the Chancellor and others in the administration regarding shared governance issues. The Committee will meet with Chancellor White, EVC Blanchard, and AVCs Minor, Mallon and Van Cleve on Tuesday, December 5, 2017. We anticipate there will be additional meetings as well.

This initial meeting had been scheduled with the Chancellor as one of the regular “interim” 1-hour meetings wherein we discuss with him resolutions discussed at our plenary and the administration’s response to them, along with any other issues that are important to address. Given the circumstances, the Executive Committee deemed it important to make shared governance issues the sole agenda item, so I indicated to him this would be the topic of our meeting. He then asked that everyone make adjustments to their schedules to lengthen the meeting to two hours. All five Executive Committee members will be there in person, as will all five members of the administration. We will provide updates as discussions progress.

Appointments

The University of California (UC) is convening a Task Force on Transfer, and asked for CSU faculty to participate. The Executive Committee considered the self-nominations received, as well as a request by the UC for a specific representative on one of the groups; Jeffrey Reader, Jim Postma, and Thomas Norman were appointed to serve.

The Senate Select Committee on Student Success is holding a hearing on changes to remediation on Monday, December 4, 2017. I was invited by Senator Glaser’s office to testify, or to appoint a designee. Given the subject matter and his expertise, the Executive Committee asked David Barsky (Academic Preparation and Education Programs committee Chair) to testify as my designee.

Sustainable Financial Model Work Group

You may recall that about three years ago, Chancellor White created a task force to explore recommendations for a sustainable financial model for the CSU. At that time, Steven Filling and Steven Stepanek were members of the Task Force. A few weeks ago, Chancellor White asked me to serve on an informal “work group” to discuss progress toward the recommendations in the task force report. The first meeting of the “work group” occurred yesterday, and another meeting is planned for January. Situated in the context of the tuition increase proposal, those involved are highly motivated to investigate all avenues which would avoid pursuing that option.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine M. Miller