

*Academic Senate CSU (ASCSU)*  
401 Golden Shore, Suite 243  
Long Beach, CA 90802-4210

**Robert Keith Collins, Chair**  
510-367-2791  
E-mail: [rcollins@calstate.edu](mailto:rcollins@calstate.edu)

[www2.calstate.edu/csu-system/faculty-staff/academic-senate](http://www2.calstate.edu/csu-system/faculty-staff/academic-senate)

**ASCSU Chair's Report**  
**May Plenary 2021**  
**May 13-14, 2021**

I hope that everyone is well and staying healthy. It is an honor to represent and serve the Academic Senate of the California State University (ASCSU). It is also an honor to offer my chair's report and present efforts engaged on behalf of the ASCSU since March 18-19, 2021. Two practices that have continued to shape my approach to promoting common unity are effective communication and advocating for faculty success and how it enables student success. These efforts have included, but were not limited to the following:

**Meetings and Activities**

**March**

- Virtual meeting CSU Admissions Advisory Council, Ad Hoc Extended Work Group to Examine the Role of Standardized Testing, AY 2020-2021
- Virtual meeting CSU Campus Senate Chairs.
- Virtual meeting with California Faculty Association (CFA) Board of Directors
- Virtual meeting with California State Student Association (CSSA)
- Virtual meeting CSU Council on Ethnic Studies Steering Committee Chair
- Virtual meeting with CSU Stakeholders Advisory Committee
- Virtual meeting with CSU Stakeholders Budget Advisory Committee
- Virtual meeting with the Quantitative Reasoning Steering Committee
- Virtual meeting with U.C. Academic Senates Chair and Vice Chair on ACT/SAT, legislative advocacy, dual admissions, and Ethnic Studies

**April**

- Chaired the virtual April 2020 ICAS meeting
- Virtual meeting CSU Admissions Advisory Council, Ad Hoc Extended Work Group to Examine the Role of Standardized Testing, AY 2020-2021
- Virtual Chancellor's Legislative Advocacy Team
- Virtual interim meeting with ASCSU Executive Committee

**CSU Campuses**  
Bakersfield  
Channel Islands  
Chico  
Dominguez Hills  
East Bay

Fresno  
Fullerton  
Humboldt  
Long Beach  
Los Angeles  
Maritime Academy

Monterey Bay  
Northridge  
Pomona  
Sacramento  
San Bernardino  
San Diego

San Francisco  
San José  
San Luis Obispo  
San Marcos  
Sonoma  
Stanislaus

- Virtual interim meeting with ASCSU Extended Executive Committee
- Virtual meetings with CCC DIG on Ethnic Studies.
- Virtual meeting with California Faculty Association (CFA) Board of Directors
- Virtual meeting CSU Alumni Council
- Virtual meeting with California State Student Association (CSSA) (Secretary Steffel)
- Virtual meeting with CSU Campus Senate Chairs meeting
- Virtual meeting with CSU Council on Ethnic Studies Steering Committee Chair
- Virtual meeting with CSU EVC-ASA Search Committee
- Virtual meeting with ASCSU Exec, CSU Interim EVC Wood, and AVC Van Cleve on systemwide COVID-19 concerns.
- Virtual preparation meeting with Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates (ICAS) Chairs
- Virtual meeting with CSU Stakeholders Advisory Committee (bi-weekly)
- Virtual meeting with CSU System Budget Advisory Committee
- Virtual meeting CSU Graduation Initiative (GI) 2025 Advisory Committee
- Virtual meeting with U.C. Academic Senates Chair and Vice Chair on ACT/SAT, dual admissions, Ethnic Studies, legislative advocacy, AB 927, and CCC budget ask to bring faculty together to discuss transfer efficiency

### **Upcoming May Activities**

- Attending the CSSA May meeting
- Preparing for virtual June 2021 ICAS meeting
- Virtual meeting CSU Admissions Advisory Council, Ad Hoc Extended Work Group to Examine the Role of Standardized Testing, AY 2020-2021
- Virtual meeting with California Faculty Association (CFA) Board of Directors
- Virtual meeting CSU Alumni Council
- Virtual meeting CSU Board of Trustees
- Virtual meeting with the CSU Graduation Initiative (GI) 2025 Advisory Committee
- Virtual meeting with the CSU Quantitative Reasoning Steering Committee
- Virtual meeting with CSU EVC-ASA Search Committee
- Virtual meeting with CSU Stakeholders Advisory Committee
- Virtual meeting with CSU System Budget Advisory Committee
- Virtual meeting with U.C. Academic Senates Chair and Vice Chair on ACT/SAT, legislative advocacy, dual admissions, and Ethnic Studies
- Virtual meeting with Elisha Smith Arrillaga, Executive Director of The Education Trust – West to continue discussions of the implications that the new CSU Quantitative Reasoning Requirement may have on underserved K-12 students

- Virtual meeting with Jeanice Warden (Principal Consultant for the Assembly Committee on Higher Education)

### **Key Issues**

#### **AB 928: The Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act of 2021**

As previously reported, on March 4, 2021, Vice Chair Yee-Melichar and I met with Ms. Ellen Greene – Legislative Director: Office of Assembly Member Marc Berman to discuss the draft language of AB 928, potential ICAS concerns about AB 928, and best practices for obtaining ASCSU feedback. After our April plenary, I joined our Fiscal and Governmental Affairs Committee (FGA) in legislative advocacy. On April 28, 2021, I joined FGA and met with Ms. Ellen Greene – Legislative Director: Office of Assembly Member Marc Berman. Central in this discussion were reminders of the following three areas of concerns:

- Intersegmental Implementation Committee: This entity would serve as a state committee charged with ADT oversight.
- Consolidation of CSU and UC general education pathways into one pathway from CCC.
- Automatic ADT pathway placement at CCC.

The ASCSU Executive and Extended Executive Committees, especially the Standing Committee Chairs of our Academic Preparation and Educational Programs (APEP) and Fiscal and Governmental Affairs (FGA) committees, have been asked to pay continued attention to this legislation and how it can lead to legislative intrusion into matters of curriculum, which is the purview of the ASCSU. All ASCSU Senators will be asked to provide feedback that will be shared with Ms. Greene and Assembly Member Berman at the April ICAS meeting. For more information please email me. A copy of the proposed legislation can be found using the following link:

[https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202120220AB928](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB928)

#### **AB 1460 Implementation**

As liaison from the Executive Committee to the CSU Council on Ethnic Studies, I continue to maintain regular communication with the CSUCES. Central in these conversations are strategies for maintaining effective communication between the ASCSU and advising needs of students in Ethnic Studies post-implementation. Recently conversations reveal the following concerns:

- The CSUCES is concerned that the Social Justice components of the CCC's curriculum will overshadow the Ethnic Studies in their curricula and lend to inconsistencies between CCC and CSU faculty expectations for the requirement.
- The CSUCES met with Chancellor Castro and is looking forward to continued communications with the ASCSU.

It is my sincere hope that communication will continue throughout the year and supplement the communications that occur between the Academic Affairs and the CSUCES to ensure disciplinary perspectives inform ASCSU efforts.

In a similar vein, I have maintained regular communication with Interim EVC Wood and AVC Van Cleve and campus senate chairs on AB1460 implementation.

The ASCSU Executive Committee will continue to map strategies for consultation until June, and make a recommendation to the 2021-22 ASCSU Executive Committee that these conversations continue with Interim EVC Wood, new EVC, and AVC Van Cleve, on the implementation of AB 1460. These consultations continue to illuminate the ways in which the ASCSU is taking an active role in faculty consultation on curricular impacts caused by the implementation of AB 1460, best practices needed to ensure successful implementation and minimize campus curricular disruption, and ensure that campuses are able to implement the requirement according to their respective aims, missions, and values.

### **California State Student Association (CSSA)**

On May 2, 2021, I attended the CSSA plenary and presented the ASCSU Liaison Report to the CSSA during the Board of Directors segment of their plenary. The CSSA has elected their new officers for 2021-22 and we will receive an update during plenary from our CSSA liaison. Areas of potential concerns and/or collaboration included but were not limited to the following legislation:

- [SB 22](#): Education Finance: School Facilities: Public Preschool, K-12, and College Healthy and Safety Bond Act (Glazer)
- [H.R. 1919](#): Enhance Access to SNAP ACT of 2021
- [AB 1377](#): California Environmental Quality Act: Student Housing Development Projects (Rubio)

It is important to note that the CSSA has decided to co-sponsor AB 928. Discussion has been had with Mr. Liu, VP of Legislative Affairs on the importance of consultation with ASCSU and ICAS faculty. Please join me in continued sending of good wishes to President Khuraibet as she deftly navigates power and water shortages in Texas while leading the CSSA.

### **CSU District Advocacy with the CSU Chancellor's Team**

During the weeks of April 5, 2021 and April 12, 2021, I was invited to join CSU Chancellor Castro's Team for D.C. District Week legislative advocacy. The team included representation from the ASCSU, CFA, CSSA, CSU Alumni Association, and CSUEU. These meetings included – but were not limited to - conversations with Secretary Miguel Cardona, Kathy Valle, White House Domestic Policy Council, Representative Judy Chu, Senator Alex Padilla, Representative Jim Costa, and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi. Central in these meetings were the following discussion points: gratitude for COVID Relief and

the American Rescue Plan, the need for permanent support for Dreamers, which includes a pathway to citizenship and access to financial aid, and the need for an increase of Pell.

### **CSU Executive Vice Chancellor of Academic and Student Affairs Feedback**

As recently reported by email, to ensure robust feedback and that your voices and those of your campus colleagues are represented, on behalf of the ASCSU Executive Committee, I would like to ask for further feedback from you all and your campus colleagues on the following:

- What are the opportunities that await the next EVC-ASA?
- What challenges might this individual face in this role?
- What are the ideal skills, qualifications, and attributes that the next EVC-ASA should possess?
- What are some of your "points of pride" as a member of the CSU community?

Please feel free to send your feedback to the AGB search firm by email ([CalStateEVC@agbsearch.com](mailto:CalStateEVC@agbsearch.com)). A feedback portal is also forthcoming and information about the CSU EVC-ASA search can be found using the following link:

<https://www2.calstate.edu/csu-system/about-the-csu/leadership/recruiting-etc/Pages/default.aspx>. The search process will move quickly. As also previously mentioned by email, I have been asked by Chancellor Castro to serve on the EVC-ASA Search Committee. After consultation with the ASCSU Executive Committee, it was agreed that the ASCSU Chair would serve, as there is to be only one faculty representative on the search committee. ASCSU representation is a regular shared governance practice for CSU Assistant Vice Chancellor (AVC) positions and above. As the ASCSU representative, I am also happy to receive feedback on your behalf and that of your constituents, and forward it to the search committee.

### **CSU Stakeholders Advisory Committee**

I have continued to attend bi-weekly CSU Stakeholder Advisory Committee meetings. Committee members heard a report and update CO budget advocacy. The discussion centered on the following:

1. Discussion of the CSU budget and advocacy will continue until mid-June.
2. It is important to continue pushing for more one-time funding through legislative advocacy, especially in the areas of GI 2025, deferred maintenance, etc.
3. It is important to express our gratitude for the restoration funding, while continuing to push for more funding.
4. An economic impact report on the contributions of the CSU to the State of California has been released.
5. It is important to remember that we are not done with budget advocacy until the budget is signed.

### **Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates (ICAS)**

On April 13, 2021, I had the honor of convening ICAS. This joint meeting of the Academic Senate leadership from the three segments (i.e., California Community Colleges (CCC), California State University (CSU), and University of California (U.C.)) of public higher education in the State of California engaged in conversations on the following:

1. Committee of the Whole: Transfer: Is it Broken? If so, then what it wrong? If not, then let's unite in success.
2. Review of intersegmental work and next steps (CCC/UC)
3. Legislation: AB 927 (Medina), 928 (Berman), 1040 (Muratsuchi), 1111 (Berman) (CCC)
4. Ethnic Studies (CSU/UC)
  - UC Freshman Admissions Requirement for 2030
5. IGETC (UC)
6. IGETC Standards Document (CCC) – First Reading & Webpage update
7. CHEGG (CSU/UC)
8. ESL Paper (CCC) - Approved

ICAS also engaged in conversation with the following legislators and policy advisors:

1. Lande Ajose – Senior Policy Advisor to the Governor
2. Lark Park – Director, California Education Learning Lab
9. Jennifer Pacella – Deputy Legislative Analyst: Higher Education, Legislative Analyst's Office

As outgoing 2020-2021 ICAS Chair, I will recommend that ICAS continue to work on the following segmental priorities, as areas of both segmental concerns and areas for ongoing collaboration:

CSU: Intersegmental collaborations related to how to further reduce barriers to student transfer, mental health and faculty and student success during the COVID-19 Pandemic, and formerly incarcerated student success. As an initiative, ICAS will also collectively work develop joint position statements on the following:

1. Further Reducing Barriers to Students Transfer
2. Support Necessary to Decrease Faculty Burn-out
3. Formerly Incarcerated Student Success
4. Cultural Competence to Reduce Barriers to Learning

U.C.: Working with Incarcerated or Formerly Incarcerated Students and a possible Ethnic Studies requirement was discussed. Central in these discussions were the potential for ICAS endorsement and transfer pathways for incarcerated students.

CCC: Articulation and CCC Course Outlines and Faculty Discipline Review Groups (FDRG) Requirements for Course Identification Numbering System (C-ID). Central in

these discussions was the need for greater CSU faculty participation in the process and how to enable more effective communication between the segments on transfer. The CCC also invited guests, Darla Cooper, Executive Director and Alyssa Nguyen, Director of Research & Evaluation from the Research and Planning Group to discuss the barrier to transfer found in their studies of student experiences. Updates on the Community College Baccalaureate and associated legislation, IGETC Standards Subcommittee Membership and ESL students in higher education were also provided.

### **Liaison meeting between CSUCES and Chancellor's Office**

On Wednesday, April 14, 2021, the CSU Council on Ethnic Studies (CSUCES) met with the Chancellor's Office (CO) to continue discussions from a previous meeting. A meeting which representation from the ASCSU was not asked to attend. With the approval and invitation of the CSUCES Chair and Interim EVC, I attend as the ASCSU Liaison to the CSUCES. As per agreements from last fall, between the ASCSU Executive Committee and the CSUCES leadership, the ASCSU Chair serves as the liaison to the CSUCES to ensure effective communication between the ASCSU and the CSUCES. This meeting, begin with introductions and then move to a listening session to CSUCES concerns. Central in this discussion were the following central question:

1. Explanations of CSUCES concerns regarding the Title 5 change.
2. Ethnic Studies faculty concerns with AB 1460 implementation on campuses and the exclusion of some Ethnic Studies faculty from their campus implementation processes.
3. The need for the CO, CSUCES, and ASCSU to meet again to discuss the current state of AB 1460 implementation.
4. The need for professional development to ensure the effective implementation of the CSU Ethnic Studies requirement (i.e., workshops, webinars, and Ethnic Studies faculty led discussions of best practices for course creation, models for learning outcome development beyond the core competencies, etc.)
5. The need for addressing the concerns of some Ethnic Studies discipline faculty, particularly American Indian/Native American Studies, who felt that they were being left out of requirement implementation.

It is also important to remember, as previous reported by email, that my role as ASCSU liaison to the CSUCES was to listen. When ask by the CSUCES leadership to weigh in, I opened with the following question: How can the ASCSU further assist the CSUCES? This introductory question, was followed briefly by the subsequent reminders:

1. This year has been dedicated to ongoing conversations with the CSUCES to monitor the state of AB 1460 implementation. The ASCSU Academic Affairs Committee has dedicated a time certain of 1:00p.m. - or a mutually convenient time - on their agendas for consultation and meeting with the CSUCES.
2. The ASCSU Executive Committee and the Academic Affairs Committee stand ready to engage in all meetings between the ASCSU, CO, and CSUCES.

3. The ASCSU, particularly the Executive Committee, would be to consult on any professional development efforts offered by the CO for the CSUCES.
4. It is important to remember that the ASCSU looks forward to ongoing conversations to ensure the successful implementation of the CSU Ethnic Studies requirement. The Academic Affairs Committee, given that this work falls within their charge, and their effective past collaborations with representatives from the CSU Council of Ethnic Studies, has been selected as the committee space where meetings with the council will continue on AB 1460 implementation, along with representatives from the Chancellor's Office and ASCSU.

The meeting concluded with all agreeing that the ASCSU, CO, and CSUCES should meet again in the context of the senate as per AS-3425-20/FA Respecting and Engaging Disciplinary Expertise (see <https://www2.calstate.edu/csu-system/faculty-staff/academic-senate/resolutions/2019-2020/3425.pdf>). As Spring 2021 draws to a close, it is my sincere hope that those continuing on the ASCSU will continue the spirit of common unity and maintain efforts towards effective communication that has characterized the 2020-2021 academic year.

This concludes my report for the May 2021 plenary and final report for the 2020-2021 academic year. It has truly been an honor to serve you all as the 2020-21 ASCSU Chair, and I look forward to the great works that we continue to accomplish together. Please feel free to email me questions at [rcollins@calstate.edu](mailto:rcollins@calstate.edu).

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Keith Collins, PhD