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ASCSU CHAIR'S REPORT
MAY PLENARY 2022
May 19-20, 2022

Good morning everyone! I hope that you all are doing well, taking good care, and staying healthy. It is an honor to offer this final chair's report to the indefatigable senators of the 2021-22 Academic Senate CSU (ASCSU). Greetings from the land of the Huichin, Ohlone! Happy Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month! To those of you on our senate that this is relevant, Happy Belated Mother's Day! I must say that I was very much looking forward to seeing many of you in person, especially those of you that I have never met in person over the past one or two years due to the COVID Pandemic. As I transition into Immediate Past ASCSU Chair, and if we are able to meet in person during the 2022-23 ASCSU, I will be sure to reach out to, and thank, each and every one of you personally for your collegiality, dedication to systemwide shared governance, hard work, and service.

“Those of us in the first American generation have had to figure out how the invisible world the emigrants built around our childhoods fits in solid America”
Maxine Hong Kingston, *The Woman Warrior*
(https://www.goodreads.com/author/quotes/17290.Maxine_Hong_Kingston, accessed May 3, 2022).

When Maxine Hong Kingston wrote these words in the “The Woman Warrior,” her goal was to convey that belonging, particularly in the U.S., is a process, a process that encourages individuals to use their agency to not only gain visibility within society but become indelibly linked to the fabric of the U.S. As the ASCSU begins its final plenary of the 2021-22 academic senate year, let us ensure that our goal of addressing inequities by focusing on enabling belonging, effective communication, and conveying how faculty success enables student success, continues. In finalizing resolutions aimed at promoting accountability within our CSU community, enabling equity and civic engagement, and ensuring faculty purview over curriculum, let us codify these recommendations so that we fix and move beyond a culture where bullying and misconduct create barriers to ensuring safe learning environments, the successful recruitment and retention of talented 21st century faculty needed to close equity gaps and fulfill the goals of Graduation

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

Initiative (GI) 2025, and challenge the notion that the CSU betrays its motto of “Vox, Veritas, Vita” or voicing truth as a way of life. During this last plenary, I ask all of you to never forget our common unity and the many ways we are devoted to equity, no matter how much we debate and disagree, so that we become the much needed agents of change that aid in the restoration of trust in the CSU and support the creation of 23 different campus cultures through positive changes, that address inequities impacting all of our colleagues, promote survivor and victim advocacy in Title IX processes, address the distrust and low morale that remain due to recent scandals, and discuss potential revisions to “ASCSU/CO Tenets of Shared Governance,” that brings us together, so that we, the ASCSU remind all that shared governance is not circumstantial, it is our way of showing how mutual respect is achieved and maintained. Efforts to date that maintain this positive momentum have included, but were not limited to the following:

ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS

March

- Attended remote meeting of the Chancellor’s General Education Advisory Committee.
- Attended remote meeting of the Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates (ICAS).
- Attended remote meeting of the Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates (ICAS) Special Committee meeting on AB 928.
- Continued service on the CSU Naming Review Committee.
- Continued remote conversations with Assistant Vice Chancellor Van Cleve and Associate Vice Chancellor Wrynn on AB 928.
- Continued remote contact and discussions with members of the CSU Council on Ethnic Studies, on practices for consultation with the ASCSU through the Academic Affairs Standing Committee.
- Continued remote consolation and meetings with ICAS Chairs on best practices for effective communication. The following are the tentative working discussion for the fall: AB 928, the new CSU Ethnic Studies Requirement’s impact on Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADTs), the new U.C. Ethnic Studies Requirement, addressing barriers to effective transfer, and the need for greater academic advising for students.
- Met remotely with the CSU Alumni Council Board and presented ASCSU Chair Liaison Report.
- Met remotely with the California Faculty Association (CFA) Board and present ASCSU Chair Liaison Report.
- Met remotely with U.C. Senate Chair and ICAS Chair Robert Horowitz and California Community Colleges (CCC) Senate President Dolores Davison to discuss strategies for moving forward with opposition to AB 928.

- Met remotely with the WASC (Western Association of Schools and Colleges) Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) President Studley.

April

- Attended remote meeting of ICAS Special Committee on AB 928.
- Continued service on the CSU Naming Review Committee.
- Continued remote contact and discussions with members of the CSU Council on Ethnic Studies, on practices for consultation with the ASCSU through the Academic Affairs Standing Committee.
- Continued remote conversations with Assistant Vice Chancellor Van Cleve and Associate Vice Chancellor Wrynn on AB 928, the ASCSU feedback portal, and planning of the collaborative AB 928 webinar. The following is the link to the ASCSU feedback portal: https://www.calstate.edu/csu-system/faculty-staff/academic-senate/Pages/ASCSU_AB928_Feedback.aspx. The following is the link to the CSU webpage on AB 928: <https://www.calstate.edu/impact-of-the-csu/student-success/AB-928/Pages/default.aspx>.
- Continued remote meetings and consultation on best practices for effective communication with ICAS and ICAS Chairs. The following are the tentative working discussions for Spring 2022: AB 928, the ADTs, CHEGG concerns, the new U.C. Ethnic Studies Requirement, addressing barriers to effective transfer, and the need for greater student advising. The importance of conveying the need for funding to the legislature for the work that faculty will need to do because of AB 928 was also discussed.
- Met remotely with the CSU Alumni Council Board and presented on a panel for their East Coast Alumni event.
- Met remotely with the CFA Board and presented ASCSU Chair Liaison Report.
- Met remotely with the CSU Campus Senate Chairs and gave the ASCSU Chair report.
- Met remotely with the Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates (ICAS) and gave the ASCSU Chair Report.
- Followed up with WSCUC President Studley on extended invitation to the May ASCSU plenary.
- Reviewed the ASCSU Bylaws and Constitution for areas where gender neutral language is needed. Will propose the consideration of adding “they” to he and she.

May

- Communicated remotely with Executive Vice Chancellor of Academic and Student Affairs Alva, Associate Vice Chancellor Wrynn, and Assistant Vice Chancellor Van Cleve to provide an update on ICAS discussions and the new

AB 928 pathway.

- Met remotely with the Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates (ICAS) and gave the ASCSU Chair Report.
- Met remotely with U.C. Senate Chair and ICAS Chair Robert Horowitz and CCC Senate President Dolores Davison to continue discussing strategies for moving forward with on AB 928. AB 1964 was also discussed.
- Met remotely with the California State Student Association (CSSA) and presented the ASCSU Chair Liaison Report.
- Met remotely the CSU Steering Committee on Academic Preparation and Quantitative Reasoning.
- Met remotely with System Budget Advisory Committee (SBAC).

Upcoming May Activities

- May Board of Trustees meeting.
- Recommend that the next ASCSU Chair plan an AB 928 Webinar with updates.
- Recommend that the next ASCSU Chair resume virtual campus visits. COVID-19 and personal concerns about health and well-being permitting.
- Recommend that the next ASCSU Chair revise the ASCSU COVID Survey for the September plenary.
- Reviewed the ASCSU Bylaws and Constitution for areas where gender neutral language is needed. Will propose the consideration of adding “they” to he and she.
- Recommend that the new ASCSU Chair continue agenda setting meetings with the new Interim Chancellor, Executive Vice Chancellor Alva, and Assistant Vice Chancellor Van Cleve.

It is my sincere hope that you all find the aforementioned principles of enabling belonging and common unity in all efforts that I have engaged. The following are areas of discussion that I will recommend the that next ASCSU Chair continue to engage:

- Continue examining AB 928, the timeline received from ICAS, and feedback being received from campuses.
- Continue examining commendations for exiting and retiring senators.
- Continue exploring faculty concerns, and the similarities and differences between faculty and student concerns, regarding campus repopulation during the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- Continue exploring ways faculty can provide input into WSCUC perspectives on online education and modality choice.
- Continue exploring the impact of the shift to online teaching during the

COVID-19 Pandemic and what implications this shift holds for what works and what doesn't work for faculty engaged in online education in the CSU.

- Continue exploring how the ASCSU might provide resources to the Chancellor's Office on matters of curriculum related to the four areas engaged during the ASCSU/CO Retreat on "Enabling Belonging: Reducing Barriers to CSU Student Engagement, Success, and Wellness During the COVID-19 Pandemic". The areas are as follows:
 - Building a Culture of Belonging, Mental Health, and Well-Being: Demarginalizing Race, Gender, Class, and Ability in the CSU During the Pandemic.
 - Academic Technology and Access to Enable Faculty and Student Belonging and Success
 - Funding the CSU: Legislative Advocacy that Enables Faculty and Student Belonging and Success
 - GI 2025: Enabling Belonging Through Expectations for Equitable Student Success
- Continue exploring how the ASCSU might continue collaborating with the CFA, CSSA, and Chancellor's Office in virtual legislative advocacy early this Spring in order to improve our footprint in Sacramento.
- Explore collaborative avenues for assessing the extent to which academic dishonesty occurs systemwide, with particular attention to CHEGG.
- Explore collaborative avenues for enhancing faculty diversity systemwide.

KEY ISSUES

AB 928

On May 6, 2022, The Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates (ICAS) presented the new General Education Pathway required by AB 928: Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act of 2021: Associate Degree for Transfer Intersegmental Implementation Committee. Drawing upon the invaluable feedback from CSU faculty, this 34 unit pathway maintains oral communication. Please see the following link for the pathway. As required by AB 928, the State of California has constituted the Associate Degree for Transfer Intersegmental Implementation Committee and information has been shared with your ASCSU Standing Committee Chairs.

The pathway is now out for vetting by the three segments (CSU, CCC, and UC) and feedback from the ASCSU and CSU faculty will be solicited until December 1, 2022. Director Butler has revised the AB 928 feedback portal and each campus' Dropbox is available. The purpose soliciting this feedback is to gauge what ICAS may have missed that is relevant to student preparation for CSU majors and faculty expectations of transfer students. This feedback will inform the work of the 2022-23

ASCSU Executive Committee. Please report back to your campus senates and get on your senate agendas. Two trends characterize the emails that I receive: 1) What is the point of feedback now that the pathway is completed? 2) Is it possible for ASCSU Senators to provide regular updates. It is important to note that ICAS would like feedback on the strengths and weaknesses of the pathway, how faculty see it impacting student preparation for transfer, particularly preparation for specific majors, etc. If we take Lifelong Learning, for hypothetical example, the lack of Lifelong Learning in the AB 928 pathway may pose a problem for Kinesiology majors. Feedback from CSU faculty will enable the 2022-23 ASCSU Executive Committee, as members of ICAS, to see if the CCCs, for example, have any flexibility with their graduation requirements. If so, then perhaps they could make Lifelong Learning a graduation requirement and maintain the academic preparation in this area, rather than the AB 928 pathway.

In brief, the new pathway contains the following:

- English Composition (1 course)
- Critical Thinking & Composition (1 course)
- Oral Communication (1 course)
- Mathematical Concepts & Quantitative Reasoning (1 course)
- Arts (1 course)
- Humanities (1 course)
- Social & Behavioral Sciences (2 courses)
- Physical Science (1 course)
- Biological Science (1 course)
- Laboratory (Bio/Physical Science) – 1 unit course
- Ethnic Studies (1 course)

Accomplishments Document & Budget Justification

The ASCSU accomplishments document, which presents all resolutions and efforts of the ASCSU for the senate year, will be compiled for presentation during the May plenary. This document shows activities of the ASCSU and justifies and supports budget requests. Vice Chair Steffel will complete the document to support the budget request submitted by Director Butler and the ASCSU Executive Committee for 2022-23 budget.

Academic Senate 2022-2023 Committee Preference Forms

Director Butler has revised the forms for circulation after the May plenary.

American Indian/Alaska Native/Native American Student Data

The CSU has expanded its ability to track American Indian/Alaska Native/Native American student data. This can be seen in the revised admissions applications that

allow students, especial California Native students, to identify tribal specifically or ethnically. This approach has allowed for the disaggregation of the students overshadowed by the census category of “two or more races.” A recommendation will be made to the 2022-23 ASCSU Chair to continue working with the CSU Chancellor’s Office to further the work necessary to shed light on this often overlooked 21st century CSU student population.

Bylaws and Constitution

As per the recommendation, from Ad Hoc Committee of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in the ASCSU, the Bylaws and Constitution have been reviewed to assess the need for gender neutral language. Little language was found that is in need of revision. The pronouns of “he, she, his, and hers” are used. The ASCSU Executive Committee will recommend to the 2022-23 ASCSU Executive Committee to consider a revision to the ASCSU Bylaws that includes the addition of the pronoun “they” to enable gender equity and present a resolution during the September 2022 plenary.

Course Identification Numbering Program (C-ID) and Faculty Discipline Review Groups (FDRG)

The ASCSU Executive Committee in collaboration with Associate Director Karen Simpson-Alisca continues the recruitment of CSU faculty to participate in the C-ID and FDRG processes. A recommendation to the 2022-23 ASCSU Chair will be made to continue this collaboration to ensure CSU faculty purview over CSU curriculum and active participation in transfer alignment and articulation processes. A special congratulations to Associate Director Karen Simpson-Alisca on her retirement.

Cal Poly Pomona to host the American Association of Blacks in Higher Education (AABHE), Leader Mentorship Institute (LMI)

The AABHE Leadership Mentorship Institute will be hosted in the CSU this year from July 10-16, 2022 at Cal Poly Pomona and Double Tree, Pomona. Cal Poly Pomona will also host the 2023 AABHE Conference. Conference information is forthcoming.

CSU Ethnic Studies Requirement Implementation

Now that new CSU Ethnic Studies Requirement is being implemented, the ASCSU Executive Committee will continue to monitor implementation. The Chair of the ASCSU Academic Affairs (AA) Committee continues to reach out to the CSU Council on Ethnic Studies to continue effective communication on campus concerns that arise during implementation and course approval processes.

In closing, it has truly been an honor to serve two terms as ASCSU Chair and both an honor and a privilege to work with you all. During my service as ASCSU Chair, I

hope that you will agree, that we have come together, despite different interpretations of what it means to speak truth as a way of life, to enable belonging, common unity, more effective communication, and demonstrate how and why faculty success ensures student success. Together, we have made history. Together, through your committees and our agreements and disagreements here on the virtual senate floor, we have aided in the implementation of an Ethnic Studies requirement in the largest four-year institution in the nation. Together, we have faced legislative intrusion, yet again, and enhanced transfer to our system, while maintaining our commitment to the “Golden Four.” Together, we have agreed that caste and sexual misconduct – like racism – created barriers to faculty and student success and have no place in the CSU. Together, and during the COVID-19 pandemic, we aided our colleagues and turned the largest four-year institution in the nation into the largest online educational institution. We also found out that we are not so different as humans as our academic ranks and roles suggest. Access to technology is a concern for faculty as well as students. Food and housing insecurity is of equal concern for faculty, especially lecturers, as it is for students. Together, these are issues that we have faced and, through our continued common unity, we have been – and will continue to be – effective at addressing them. You all are amazing colleagues, roles models of shared governance leadership, and I am proud of, and forever grateful to, each and every one of you for your candor, contributions, collegiality, and service to the curricula and faculty of the CSU. These attributes will never be forgotten and forever respected.

Maxine Hong Kingston reminds us in *The Fifth Book of Peace* that,

“The images of peace are ephemeral. The language of peace is subtle. The reasons for peace, the definitions of peace, the very idea of peace have to be invented, and invented again.” – Maxine Hong Kingston, *The Fifth Book of Peace* (https://www.goodreads.com/author/quotes/17290.Maxine_Hong_Kingston, accessed May 3, 2022).

These words have guided me over the past two years and it is my sincere hope that you have found important our common unity and the relationship building practices, approved by the ASCSU Executive Committee, with the CSU Trustees, the CSU Chancellor’s Office (CO) Liaisons to ASCSU Standing Committees, California Faculty Association (CFA), California State Student Association (CSSA), CSU Alumni Association, Western Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) President, the Legislative Analyst’s Office (LAO), etc. If so, then please know that in my letter to the next ASCSU Chair, these practice will be stressed for continuance, along with the need to find even more strategies to ensure effective collaboration and communication between the ASCSU and our many stakeholders. For my greatest intention is to leave you all with the reminder that common unity is not inherent, nor evident because the notion is said. Common unity, like community, must be invented

and maintained again, and again. This concludes my final report to the 2021-22 ASCSU as ASCSU Chair and I am happy to answer any questions that you all may have.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Keith Collins, PhD