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## ACADEMIC SENATE CSU CHAIR'S REPORT September Plenary 2020 September 17-18, 2020

"The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and critically. But which stops with efficiency may prove the greatest menace to society. The most dangerous criminal may be the man [or woman] gifted with reason, but with no morals... Intelligence plus character, that is the goal of true education (see <https://kinginstitute.stanford.edu/king-papers/documents/purpose-education>, accessed May 27, 2020.)" – Martin Luther King.

I hope that everyone one is well and staying healthy. It is an honor to represent and serve the Academic Senate of the California State University (ASCSU). When Martin Luther King made these statements, his goal was to engage the pulse of the common unity that mankind can achieve through education. Common unity was the platform that I ran on and the principle in the experiment of curriculum maintenance through shared governance that I hope we carry forward this year. It is also an honor to offer my first chair's report to the 2020-2021 ASCSU plenary and present my efforts on behalf of the ASCSU since June 1, 2020. Two practices have shaped my approach to promoting common unity: effective communication and advocating how faculty success enables student success. These efforts have included, but were not limited to the following:

### MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

#### June

- Virtual meeting with Academic Council
- Virtual meeting with ASCSU Executive Committee
- Virtual meeting with California Faculty Association (CFA)
- Virtual meeting with California State Student Association (CSSA)
- Virtual meeting with CSU Campus Senate Chairs, every two weeks

**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 meeting with Executive Vice Chancellor Blanchard and Assistant Vice Chancellor Van Cleve
- Virtual meeting with Intersegmental Coordinating Committee (ICC)
- Virtual meetings with Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates (ICAS) Chairs
- Virtual meeting with Stakeholders Budget Advisory Committee

## **July**

- Virtual meetings with Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates (ICAS) Chairs
- Virtual meeting with Academic Council
- Virtual meeting with ASCSU Executive and Extended Executive Committee
- Virtual Board of Trustees – July
- Virtual meeting with California Faculty Association (CFA) Board of Directors
- Virtual meeting with California State Student Association (CSSA)
- Virtual meeting with CSU Campus Senate Chairs, every two weeks
- Virtual meeting with CSU Council on Ethnic Studies
- Virtual meeting with Executive Vice Chancellor Blanchard and Assistant Vice Chancellor Van Cleve
- Virtual meeting with Intersegmental Coordinating Committee (ICC) and Senate Chairs
- Virtual meeting with Quantitative Reasoning Task Force and Executive Vice Chancellor Blanchard
- Virtual meeting with Stakeholders Budget Advisory Committee

## **August**

- Virtual meeting Alumni Council
- Virtual meeting with ASCSU Executive and Extended Executive Committee
- Virtual meetings with Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates (ICAS) Chairs
- Virtual meeting with California Faculty Association (CFA) Board of Directors
- Virtual meeting with California State Student Association (CSSA)
- Virtual meeting with CSU Campus Senate Chairs, every two weeks
- Virtual meeting with Elisha Smith Arrillaga, Ph.D., Executive Director, The Education Trust West
- Virtual meeting with Executive Vice Chancellor Blanchard and Assistant Vice Chancellor Van Cleve
- Virtual meeting with Joint Leadership Retreat (ASCSU, Chancellor and Cabinet, CSSA, Trustees)

- Virtual meeting with Intersegmental Coordinating Committee (ICC) and Senate Chairs
- Virtual meeting with Systemwide Budget Advisory Committee

### **September**

- Virtual meeting with California Faculty Association (CFA) Board of Directors
- Virtual meeting with CSSA

### **Upcoming, prior to next plenary session**

#### **Virtual September Board of Trustees meeting**

- Planned Virtual Meeting with Lisa Qing Legislative Analyst' Office
- Planned Virtual Meeting with Jeanice Warden (Principal Consultant for the Assembly Committee on Higher Education)
- Virtual September Board of Trustees meeting
- Virtual CFA Board of Director's meeting
- Virtual Agenda Setting meeting with Chancellor White
- Virtual Campus Senate Chair's meeting
- Planning virtual campus visits

### **KEY ISSUES**

#### **AB 1460 Implementation**

Since June 1, 2020, I have been in regular communication with consultation with Executive Vice Chancellor Blanchard and AVC Van Cleve on similarities and differences between Executive Order implementation under the Chancellor's Office (CO) recommendation to the Board of Trustees (BoT) and AB 1460. In a similar vein, regular communication has been maintained with members of the CSU Council on Ethnic Studies regarding AB 1460 and its potential implementation. Now that AB 1460 has been signed into law, the ASCSU Executive Committee has continued mapping strategies for consultation on the implementation of AB 1460 and continued consultation with Executive Vice Chancellor Blanchard and AVC Van Cleve. Central in these consultations have been the importance of the ASCSU taking an active role in the faculty consultation on curricular impacts caused by the implementation of AB 1460 and best practices needed to ensure successful implementation and minimize campus curricular disruption. As recently reported out to all:

- a. The ASCSU Executive Committee has met with the Chancellor's Office to consult and discuss the draft timeline and process for AB 1460 implementation.

- b. The ASCSU Executive Committee discussed the relevance of the learning outcomes in AS-3403 serving as guiding principles in the implementation process.
- c. The ASCSU will prepare for consultation with the Chancellor's Office and CSU Council on Ethnic Studies during the meeting of our Academic Affairs Standing Committee meeting on September 16, 2020. It is important to note that this is the standing committee that has been in consultation with members of the CSU Council on Ethnic Studies during the drafting of the learning outcomes embedded in AS-3403.
- d. Discussions have also occurred between the ASCSU Executive and Extended Executive Committee and the Academic Affairs Committee (AA) Committee will take the lead on consultations between the ASCSU, the CSU Council on Ethnic Studies, and the Chancellor's Office on the core competencies that will serve as guiding principles as implementation moves forward to ensure that campuses are able to implement the requirement according to their respective aims, missions, and values.

### **ASCSU 2020-2021 Goals and Visions**

The ASCSU Executive Committee and Chairs of each of the ASCSU Standing Committees, have established goals and visions for enabling common unity during the 2020-2021 academic year. These goals and visions were discussed and shared during the August 6, 2020 Extended Executive Committee meeting and shared with committee membership to guide their efforts and future resolutions. The goals and visions of the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate of the California State University seek to enable and strengthen the following:

- a. Effective communication during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- b. Faculty success to ensure student success
- c. Shared governance and reinforcement of ASCSU purview under Higher Education Employee-Employer Relations Act (HEERA)

These goals and visions were central in the creation of the theme for the 2020 ASCSU – CO Leadership Retreat.

### **2020 ASCSU – CO Leadership Retreat**

On August 26, 2020, the ASCSU hosted the Fall 2020 ASCSU-CO Leadership Retreat: Common Unity: Reducing Barriers to CSU Student Success and Wellness during the COVID-19 Pandemic. This gathering of leadership from the ASCSU, CSU Office of the Chancellor, California State Student Association (CSSA), CFA, CSUEU, and others, engaged in conversations related to five breakout areas and produced a minimum of

two recommendations for collaboration during the 2020-2021 academic year. The breakout areas were as follows:

**Breakout #1**

*Mental Health, Racism, Student Success, and Wellness (ASCSU At-Large Senator Nola Butler Byrd/ Faculty Affairs Chair Thomas Norman)*

Breakout #1 had the following recommendations for leadership:

- a. Create a Task force with multiple stakeholder groups (Students, Staff, Faculty, Administration, etc.) that expands the focus on counselor ratios, to address Mental Health and Well Being.
- b. Reaching out after the Ethnic Studies effort. We should explore options internally. a. These could include capacity building of leadership.

**Breakout #2**

*Privacy, Technology, and Remote Student Success (ASCSU Secretary Beth Steffel/ASCSU Immediate Past Chair Catherine Nelson)*

Breakout #2 had the following recommendations for leadership:

- a. Have messages about Eduroam at all campuses and let students know they can go to campuses for wireless services and Eduroam. These messages should include the following:
  - Provide a full Eduroam/wireless services map to students (as other institutions have provided).
  - Campus-specific information might resonate the most with students.
- b. Bring support services into the classroom. Make it part of the conversation at the beginning by including information in the syllabus, LMS and during classroom time. Perhaps an embedded tutor. This would go a long way to reducing any stigmatization for learning and using the services available.

**Breakout #3**

*Graduate Education, Experiential Learning and the California Workforce (ASCSU Vice Chair Darlene Yee-Melichar / Academic Affairs Chair Susan Schlievert)*

Breakout #3 had the following recommendations for leadership:

- a. Targeted outreach and enhanced support for graduate students on their basic needs and wellness (i.e. housing, food, physical & mental health and safety, childcare, internet/technology, etc.).

- b. Collaborations to further address recommendations: California State Student Association (CSSA); Associated Students; Student Health Centers; Campus Food Pantries; Counseling & Psychological Services; Financial Aid Services; Local Governments; Non-profit organizations (e.g. Working Wardrobe provides appropriate work attire for people in need).
- c. Explore how campus and faculty may allow curricular and programmatic flexibility and innovation in graduate studies and student learning (knowledge of resources, active learning and high impact practices, credit for prior learning etc.)

**Breakout #4**

*Funding the CSU: Legislative Advocacy and Student Success (ASCSU At-Large Senator David Speak / Fiscal and Government Affairs Chair Mark Hoven Stohs)*

Breakout #4 had the following recommendations for leadership:

- a. Establish a systemwide directory of all the individuals and groups within the CSU who have responsibility for legislative advocacy.
  - In collaboration with Chancellor's office staff and others, Social media could be a good way to send a unifying message.
- b. Work on the potential for additional funds from Proposition 63 (recently updated). It may provide for additional counselors on campus and could require collaboration with at the county level.

**Breakout #5:**

*Graduation Initiative 2025: ACT/SAT, ADTs, Ethnic Studies, and Equitable CSU Student Preparation (Robert Keith Collins, ASCSU Chair/ Academic Preparation and Education Programs Chair Sue Holl)*

Breakout #4 had the following recommendations for leadership:

- a. Equitable student preparation – It would allow us to address student concerns about Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADT). This is a question that comes up often in discussion with California Community Colleges (CCC). But, there should be an exploration of what that means on the CSU side.
  - What sort of discourse on transfer preparation is crucial to enabling students to understand that they're transitioning from one system to the other?
  - What is needed to onboard students?
  - What mentorship is provided?
  - What advising is necessary?

- b. Professional learning communities (especially for first-year students) to close equity gaps - This is not only important in terms of the Gradation Initiative 2025, it's also important as it applies to Ethnic Studies. Students will need to be supported and advised about the Ethnic Studies graduation requirement.
- This could also factor in necessary conversations among faculty, about the role of the SAT and ACT in the admissions processes.
  - Having these conversations over the year, with an eye toward reinforcing deliverables (e.g. working groups, white papers, resolutions)

This retreat produced in-depth conversations that all senators are encouraged to engage over the 2020-2021 academic year. If you all have found these breakout conversations of interest, then please do not hesitate to contact the breakout leader.

### **Quantitative Reasoning Steering Committee on Academic Preparation and Quantitative Reasoning (QR)**

On August 11, 2020, I attended the first meeting of the CSU Steering Committee on Academic Preparation and Quantitative Reasoning (QR). Chair by Executive Vice Chancellor (EVC) Blanchard, this committee, discussed and reviewed the background, components, and rationale behind the CSU Quantitative Reasoning Requirement, improvements made to the requirement, and implementation plan updates.

Comprised of representatives from the CSU Office of the Chancellor, California Community College administrators, K-12 superintendents, higher education advisers, etc., the overall purpose of the committee is to meet biannually and develop metrics to assess the effectiveness of the CSU new quantitative reasoning requirement.

This concludes my first plenary report for 2020-2021. It would be a pleasure to answer any questions that you all may have. It is an honor to serve you all and I look forward to the great works that we accomplish together.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Keith Collins, PhD