

ASCSU Chair Activities – March 10 – April 30, 2008

On March 10th I and the other members of the Executive Committee met with the Chancellor and Executive Vice Chancellors to discuss matters coming before the Board of Trustees at the March Board meeting. We also met with CSSA leaders to discuss issues of concern and their upcoming rally in Sacramento.

On March 11th and 12th I attended the **Board of Trustees Meeting**. Minutes of this meeting are posted at: <http://www.calstate.edu/bot/agendas/may08/fullboard.pdf>.

The Chair of the ASCSU is on the **Wang Award Selection Committee**. On March 17th and March 28th I participated in conference calls to select the Wang Award semifinalists and winners.

On April 1 & 2 I along with members of the Executive Committee participated in **Lobbying Activities with ICAS** in Sacramento. We met with Dr. David Long - Secretary of Education, Vincent Stewart - Assistant Secretary for Higher Education, Lieutenant Governor John Garamendi, Assembly Member Paul Cook, Sandra Fried - Chief Consultant to the California State Assembly Committee on Higher Education, Bill Mabie - Chief of Staff for Senator Alex Padilla, Paul Steenhausen - Senior Fiscal and Policy Analyst, Legislative Analyst's Office, and Guy Strahl - Legislative Aide for Assembly Member Julia Brownley. After I had to leave to catch my flight home the group also met with Kris Cuzmich - Consultant for Senator Jack Scott and Assembly Member Warren T. Furutani.

The meetings were quite successful as we made the key points that higher education is an investment in California's future and that we have not recovered from budget cuts suffered in the past. While nearly everyone we spoke with was supportive of the role that public higher education plays in the state, no one would make any commitments given the magnitude of the budget shortfall was unknown.

In addition to holding meetings with legislators and staff, we also had a discussion of the proposed IGETC Standards Review Committee. A preliminary draft of the committee's composition, role, and operational procedures was discussed. It was agreed to have this reconsidered for action at the April 30th ICAS meeting.

On April 3 & 4 I participated in a meeting of the **Executive Committee** at the Chancellor's Office. Minutes of this meeting can be found at: http://www.calstate.edu/AcadSen/Committees/executive/documents/excm_minutesApr2008.pdf.

On April 7 & 8 I along with members of the Executive Committee and the Fiscal and Governmental Affairs Committee participated in **ASCSU Lobbying Day**. On the evening of April 7th the group had a dinner with Karen Yelverton-Zamariripa (CSU Advocacy and Institutional Relations), John Travis and Chris Garland (CFA). Following the dinner, John and Chris provided a briefing of key issues facing the legislators concerning the budget situation. On April 8th we split up into groups of three to make legislative visits. I met with staff from the offices of Senator Steinberg, Assemblywoman Horton, Assemblyman Portantino, and Assemblyman Padilla. Once again, we received

encouraging remarks from the people we visited with, however no one was willing to make any commitments. With the people we met we tried to make the case that additional revenue sources would be needed in order to address the budget deficit.

On April 9th I gave testimony at the **Assembly Subcommittee on Educational Finance**. A transcript of my remarks to the subcommittee was previously sent to the ASCSU.

On April 10 & 11 I attended a meeting of the **Provost's Technology Steering Committee (PTSC) and the Academic Council** in San Francisco. I have previously sent out notes from the PTSC and Academic Council meetings to the ASCSU.

Following the Academic Council meeting I attended the **CFA Board Meeting** in Manhattan Beach on the evening of April 11th. There was a presentation given on public opinions relative to tax increases which showed a majority of people surveyed were not in favor of such increases. I gave a report on the activities of the ASCSU including the resolutions passed at the March Plenary and the first reading items we considered at that meeting.

On April 17th through 19th I attended the **WASC Annual Resource Conference (ARC)** in San Diego. There were a number of interesting sessions dealing with topics such as transfer, academic technology, and the VSA. I have previously forwarded to the ASCSU the PowerPoint slides dealing with a session I attended on the VSA given by President Koester along with representatives from CSU Fresno, SLO, and the UC Office of the President. On the morning of the 19th, I along with Senators Cates, Swerkes, Tarjan and Thobaben gave a panel presentation on the LDTP project.

On April 20th I attended the **CSSA CHESS** dinner and on April 21st I attended the **Student Rally** in Sacramento. I have previously sent out an e-mail summarizing the dinner and the rally which included my prepared remarks for the rally.

On April 24th I co-chaired the **ATAC** meeting in LA. Notes from this meeting prepared by Senator Thobaben were previously distributed.

On April 27th I attended a meeting of the **Alumni Council** in Sacramento. I gave a report on the resolutions passed at the March Plenary and indicated the resolutions that would be acted on at the May Plenary. I invited the Alumni Council to send a delegate to our plenary meetings and I am pleased to report that Alumni Trustee Linscheid made a resolution calling on the President of the Alumni Council to appoint members to attend our meetings. This resolution passed unanimously and I have been informed by the President of the Alumni Council, Valerie Vuicich, that she will be attending the May Plenary meeting.

On April 28th I participated in the **CSU Alumni Legislative Day**. I made visits to the offices of two Orange County Assemblyman, Van Tran and Duavall. While Assemblyman Duvall as well as the staffer for Assemblyman Van Tran who we spoke with were supportive of the work we do in the CSU, I did not get the impression that they

receptive to the idea of revenue enhancements to address the state's budget situation. In the evening I attended a reception put on by the Fullerton delegation for alumni living in the Sacramento area.

On April 30th I, along with other members of the Executive Committee attended an **ICAS** Meeting in San Francisco. Vice Chair Tarjan has sent out notes from this meeting to the ASCSU. Following the ICAS meeting Senators Swerkes, Tarjan, Thobaben, Yee-Melichar, and myself met with members of the Executive Committee of the California Community College Academic Senate to discuss the LDTP project and the Transfer AA pilot. We had a frank discussion and heard their concerns regarding the project and their views as to what the impediments have been to CCC participation in the LDTP project.