

ASCSU Chair John Tarjan's Report for May 2010

May 3rd, 2009

This report is a recap of the chair's activities since the last plenary. I will only highlight a few points in my report during the plenary. Please refer to previously distributed notes for more detail on meetings that I reference below. Copies of these notes can be obtained from ASCSU staff.

1. Final Chair's Message

a. Advocacy

- i. I want to thank the members of the Fiscal and Governmental Affairs Committee for a highly successful ASCSU Legislative Day. Tom Krabacher and Buckley Barrett and the others put together a highly successful event.
- ii. The foregoing positive report notwithstanding, I am increasingly concerned that our Senate advocacy efforts are insufficient for us to adequately represent the 23,000 faculty of the CSU in Sacramento. We are often put in a reactive mode concerning legislation. We are often absent in legislative offices and at hearings when we should not be.
- iii. Coordination with Governmental Relations staff is cordial but inadequate.
- iv. I recommend the new Executive Committee explore ways to improve our effectiveness in advocacy. I encourage them to investigate the models used by CSSA and our sister Academic Senates and to take up this issue with the outgoing and incoming Executive Vice Chancellors for Academic Affairs.

b. Senate Funding

- i. We perennially face the same budget challenges faced by the CSU— inadequacy and insufficiency.
- ii. These problems are mirrored at each of the campuses to a varying extent.
- iii. I suggest the Senate look at pursuing more stable funding mechanisms both for ASCSU and local campus senates. If an amount were set aside by the system or campuses equal to a fraction of a percent of faculty member's salaries, we could likely address this problem and the previous one related to advocacy effectiveness.

c. Assigned Time Reminder—As we transition to a new Senate, we should all keep in mind the following.

- i. Assigned time is awarded to allow Senators to serve on committees and to represent the Senate and faculty more broadly.
- ii. Representatives have an obligation to keep their standing committees and/or the ASCSU informed of the activities and decisions/recommendations of their committees.
- iii. Reallocation/denial of assigned time is routinely discussed the by the Executive Committee to ensure fairness and the effective operation of the Senate.

2. ASCSU Budget

- a. Thanks—I am personally very grateful to members of the Executive Committee and standing committee chairs for their willingness to forgo some of their assigned time to address the budget crisis. They have done so without complaint

and I have yet to see a drop in their productivity. Also thank you to all who have worked so hard to conserve scarce resources during this trying year.

- b. Update—I will be meeting with Dr. Echeverria and Tracy Butler on May 3rd to discuss our budget moving forward. I am hopeful our allocated budget will be no lower than the budget this year and that some restoration will take place after a budget bill is signed.

3. Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates (ICAS)

- a. Advocacy Task Force
 - i. We had a very successful ICAS Legislative Day in April. We met with key legislators and staff and representatives of the LAO and DOE. Former Senator Vasconcellos also met with us.
 - ii. The group produced an attractive, powerful advocacy brochure jointly with the three student leadership groups and is distributing it widely. It focuses on workforce and the economic contributions of public higher education.
 - iii. We are recommending the three chairs again participate in a letter to the editor campaign. It is unclear if this will occur just after the May revise or during the summer when budget negotiations begin in earnest.
- b. IGETC Standards Committee—we met recently to discuss potential exploration of further alignment of General Education. The group recommended that ICAS take this up in the fall.
- c. Many of us from ICAS also participated in the intersegmental advocacy day on April 27th.
- d. The next ICAS meeting will be on June 10th in Sacramento.

4. Appointments

- a. The Executive Committee continues to make appointments. Recent appointments were to the EAP Advisory Committee and a CO search committee. C-ID project appointments are ongoing.

5. Liaison with CO Administration

- a. A weekly telephone call between the Chair and Executive Vice Chancellor continues. This has been a valuable tool for keeping lines of communication open.

6. Other Functions as Chair

- a. I will be making two presentations to the Compass GE meeting at Fullerton on May 4th and continue to serve on the Compass Steering Committee.
- b. I will be conducting a shared governance workshop at Dominguez Hills on May 4th.
- c. The members of the Executive Committee continue to share liaison responsibilities. I attended the CSSA meeting at DH in March and stopped by the CHEAD meeting in Sacramento in April. I also dropped in on the Alumni Council meeting at the CO after our last plenary.
- d. I continue to participate in Academic Council meetings. The last live meeting of the academic year was in March. I also participated in the April teleconference.
- e. The Academic Technology Steering Committee met in conjunction with the March Academic Council meeting.
- f. I participated as a guest at the April GEAC meeting.

- g. I participated in the student march on March 22nd. Some 13,000-15,000 students participated. It was significant that the ASCSU chair was the only faculty member invited to speak alongside students, Chancellor Scott and numerous members of the legislature.
 - h. The ASCSU Chair attends BOT meetings and reports to the Board. In September I expressed our dismay at not having a faculty trustee. I plan a more extensive report in November than normal if a faculty trustee has not yet been appointed.
- 7. EVC Search**—Diana Guerin and I are serving on the EVC Search Committee. At the first meeting we screened candidates and worked on selection criteria and questions for the candidates. It is expected that we will interview candidates immediately after the May Board meeting.
- 8. Legislation**—I have been investing a lot of time on the phone and in Sacramento dealing with two bills.
- a. SB 1126 (Liu, early childhood education)
 - i. A major concern is the imposition of curriculum that may not serve students will.
 - ii. I have met numerous times (mainly virtually) with faculty, Senator Liu's staff and the Senator.
 - b. SB 1440 (Padilla, transfer AA)
 - i. I have met with the Senator's staff to express concerns.
 - ii. Barbara Swerkes and I are working closely with ASCCC leadership to provide a united response to the bill.
 - iii. Cooperation with Governmental Relations staff on the bill has not been effective.
- 9. Faculty Trustee**
- a. I met briefly with a member of the Governor's appointments office.
 - b. I continue to be unable to arrange a meeting to discuss the situation with someone who might have authority to move the process along or provide additional insights.