

**May 23-24, 2017 CSU Board of Trustees Meeting  
Faculty Trustee's Report**

**Steven Stepanek**

My report on the May 23-24, 2017 CSU Board of Trustees meeting held at the Chancellor's Office in Long Beach, California:

1. The Board met Tuesday morning in closed session to discuss executive personnel matters, pending litigation and collective bargaining items.
2. After lunch, the Board met in open session, starting with the Committee on Institutional Advancement approving four naming requests:
  - a. The naming of Juniper Hall at CSU, Northridge as the Bookstein Hall to honor the philanthropic and volunteer efforts of the Bookstein family. This building houses the David Nazarian College of Business and Economics.
  - b. The naming of the baseball clubhouse at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo as the Dignity Health Baseball Clubhouse in recognition of the major contribution by Dignity Health towards the completion of the clubhouse project.
  - c. The naming of the Bartleson Ranch at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. This naming recognizes the donation of the 450-acre avocado and lemon orchard by Jan and Stuart Bartleson to the campus.
  - d. The naming of the Swanson Cal Poly Golf Program at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. This naming recognizes the major endowment for the Cal Poly Golf Program by William H. and Cheryl Swanson.
3. The next standing committee to meet was Campus Planning, Buildings and Grounds which I chaired this year. The committee approved the Categories and Criteria for the Five-Year Facilities Renewal and Capital Improvement Plan 2018-2019 through 2022-2023 and accepted two additional reports: California Environmental Quality Act Annual Report and California State University Seismic Safety Program Annual Report. The committee also approved the following five campus projects:
  - a. An Intramural Field upgrade for California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. This 2.5-acre field located west of the track and field area is used for practice sessions by football and soccer teams and intramural events like flag football and soccer. The field will be brought up to NCAA standards and four light poles will be installed. The project will be funded through a combination of donor funds raised specifically for this project and reserves from University Union, Cal Poly Corporation, and the Housing program.
  - b. Replacement facility for residential life programs and conference center at San Diego State University. The project involves the construction of two new facilities to replace the existing Tula/Tenochca conference facility. The new Tenochca Community Space to support student housing will be built on the site of the existing building. The new Tula Conference Center will be built closer to existing parking structures on a site that is currently lawn and a service vehicle parking lot. The project is to be financed from a combination of CSU System Revenue Bonds and campus housing reserves.

- c. Replacement and expansion of the Equine Center for California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. The campus has proposed revisions to the physical master plan to include improvements of the existing Equine Center, Environmental Horticultural Science facility, Beef Unit, and Crop Science facility in a phased approach. Phase I involves the renovation of the existing equestrian arena, replacement of the breeding and stallion barns, and expansion of the hay barn at the north end of the Equine Center. This project will be donor funded with the project proceeding to construction when sufficient funds are available.
  - d. Holloway Avenue Revitalization Project for San Francisco State University – replacement of student housing and creative arts building. SFSU is working towards transforming Holloway Avenue into a “college main street.” The campus has been purchasing property in the southern area of the campus that currently has low rise 1940’s apartments buildings. This proposal is to redevelop two parcels of land:
    - i. Student housing / mixed-use project – 136 student housing units (516 beds), with study area, laundry, retail space, offices, courtyard, and parking. The main entrance would be at Varela Avenue on the east with a grade connection to the future transit stop planned at Holloway and 19<sup>th</sup> Avenues. Part of the retail space might include a neighborhood serving grocery store. The development would be financed through a public-private partnership under a 65-year lease to the developer.
    - ii. Creative Arts Replacement Building – this will be the first of four buildings planned to eventually replace the existing Creative Arts Building. This four-story building will house the entire Broadcast and Electronic Communications Arts program, interdisciplinary lecture and active learning classrooms, and administrative offices for the College of Liberal and Creative Arts. The new building will front Holloway Avenue and Font Blvd on a land parcel adjacent to the existing Creative Arts Building. This building would be financed through CSU System Revenue Bonds and campus designated capital reserves. The plan is to build the three additional replacement buildings on Font Blvd adjacent to the Creative Arts Replacement Building.
  - e. North campus enhancements and Soccer Training Facility for CSU, Los Angeles. The soccer training facility on a 3.6 acre site would be funded by a public-private partnership with the Los Angeles Football Club (LAFC) under a lease which can be extended for up to 30 years.
4. The Committee on Finance convened to hear one informational item and consider four action items. The informational item was a report on the 2017-2018 Support Budget request by the board.

The May revised budget had been released by the Governor about a week earlier. In the revised state budget, the base supplemental funding for the CSU is unchanged with the position taken that \$157.2 million in supplemental funds should be sufficient to handle our needs for the coming year. Because of the tuition increases by the CSU and the UC, it is estimated that state funding for Cal Grant awards will need to be increased by \$8 million; an expense the revised state budget covers by reducing the funding to each system by \$4 million. In the budget’s discussion on the raising of tuition at public universities, the statement is made “These growth rates exceed any standard measure of inflation.” That statement does not take in account that in 2016 the CSU reached agreements with a number of the collective bargaining units in the CSU to provide salary increases to compensate for some of the accumulated increases in the cost of living during the prior 10 years. The true costs of those 2016 collective bargaining agreements coming due with the 2017-2018 budget. This is why the board’s budget request included \$26 million for increases in mandatory costs such as health care and utilities, \$139.1 million for current compensation commitments (the salary increases for faculty and many staff), and \$55.1 million to cover new collective bargaining compensation commitments. Just the first two of these items exceeds the \$157.2 million increase proposed by the state without any consideration of the third item or the

requests for \$75 million for Graduation Initiative 2025, \$10 million for desperately needed improvements to facilities and infrastructure, and state funding for FTES growth.

The revised budget also signals that future annual increases of state funding to the CSU will be lower (at about a 3% rate rather than the current 4% rate.)

The CSU will continue its advocacy efforts as the 2017-2018 state budget heads for final legislative budget hearings, followed by the state leadership negotiating the final budget in June, and a budget enactment by June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Two of the four action items the Board of Trustees' Committee on Finance approved were the public-private partnerships for projects just approved by the Committee on Campus Planning, Builds and Grounds: a) the public-private partnership with the Los Angeles Football Club to develop a practice facility at CSU, Los Angeles; and b) the public-private partnership for the mixed-use development project at San Francisco State University.

The Finance committee also approved the issuance of CSU Systemwide Revenue Bonds and related debt instruments for projects at CSU, Los Angeles (the Rongxiang Xu Bioscience Innovation Center) and San Diego State University (the Tula/Tenochca building replacement project.)

On the committee's consent agenda was the approval of the appointment of three members to the Fullerton Arboretum Commission. The Arboretum is located on state property at CSU, Fullerton. The three appointees are: Dr. Anil Puri, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, CSU Fullerton; Mr. Greg Saks, Vice President for University Advancement, CSU Fullerton; and Mr. Frank Mumford, Executive Director, CSU Fullerton Auxiliary Services Corporation. All three will serve until the Fullerton Arboretum Authority Agreement expires on December 3, 2020, unless they leave their current positions. The president of CSU Fullerton was given authority to make appointments to the Commission if positions should open.

5. The Committee on Governmental Relations convened to receive an update (as of May 11<sup>th</sup>) on the legislative bills listed in my report on the March meeting of the Board of Trustees.
6. The Committee on Educational Policy had one informational item and two action items on its agenda. One action item was the second reading of amendments to Title 5 regarding degree requirements, admission and transfer to bring Title 5 into compliance with existing California statutory law, and to streamline degree requirements. The changes fall into four categories:
  - a. Adding Doctor of Audiology degrees
  - b. Facilitating degree completion of Bachelor of Arts degrees – maintain the required 12 semester units of upper-division work in major but strike the required overall 40 semester units of upper-division work towards the degree; this change would make BA requirements consistent with Bachelor of Science requirements which do not stipulate an overall upper-division unit requirements; there is also no overall upper-division requirement for Bachelor of Architecture, Bachelor of Fine Arts, Bachelor of Landscape Architecture Bachelor of Music.
  - c. Removing Lower-Division Transfer Patterns (LDTP)
  - d. Incorporating Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act (STAR, also known as SB 1440)

During the Board's public comment period there were speakers expressing concerns that the standard for bachelor of arts degrees was being lowered by the proposed removal of that degree's unique requirement of overall 40 semester units of upper-division work.

I will note that with the approval of this set of Title 5 changes, the old LDTP program to provide transfer pathways for community college students is now history.

The other action item was the second reading of changes to Title 5 to lower the nonresident determination appeals deadline from 120 to 30 days. During the presentation of this change, it was noted that during the web-based posting and public comment period required by law, there were no comments submitted regarding the shortened time period for nonresident status appeals.

The committee and later the full board approved both sets of Title 5 changes.

The informational item was an update on Graduation Initiative 2025. The presentation focused on financial aid issues, covering: increased efforts by campuses to improve the financial literacy of students, the growing availability of micro-grants and short-term loans to assist students who are on track to graduate but who face financial shortfalls that impede their path to completing their degree, and the restoration of year-round Pell Grants. It was also announced that for 2017-2018, \$75 million will be allocated to the campuses in support of Graduation Initiative 2025 activities.

7. The Committee on Audit was next to convene. The committee received a status report on current internal audit assignments.
8. The Committee on University and Faculty Personnel met to discuss executive compensation for two positions: interim president of San Diego State University (same salary as prior president) and CSU Vice Chancellor of Human Resources (2% increase for the position.) After some discussion regarding if an interim should receive the same (because the responsibilities are the same whether holding the position for a short or long term) or a lower salary (because they will only hold the position for a short term and there is the perception they will do less), the salaries and compensation packages were approved.
9. The full board convened and approved by consent all the pending resolutions presented during the standing committee meetings. The board meeting included a lengthy public comment segment and presentations by the board chair, chancellor, chair of ASCSU, president of CSSA, and president of the CSU Alumni Council. The board also approved conferral of the title of Student Trustee Emerita to Maggie K. White and conferral of commendation to outgoing San Diego State University president, Elliot Hirshman.

One of the consent items was the election of the chair and vice chair of the Board of Trustees for 2017-2018. Rebecca D. Eisen will continue as the board chair for 2017-2018 and Adam Day will continue as board vice chair for 2017-2018.

The public comment segment included speakers on the following topics:

- a. Report from William Blischke, President, CSU Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association on their CSU advocacy efforts
- b. Students opposing the March meeting tuition increase
- c. Community feedback regarding the noise level of concerts at CSULA
- d. Community feedback regarding the proposed 14 story dorms building at SDSU
- e. CFA comments regarding tenure density issues and pending legislation on the issue
- f. Union concerns about what the hiring practices will be for the proposed hotel at CSUN
- g. Student and faculty concerns regarding the Title 5 change to remove the 40-unit upper division rule on BA degrees and the possible resulting loss of FTES to GE based departments
- h. Union concerns regarding today's executive compensation decisions
- i. Students and faculty expressing concerns about deportation of students under President Trump's orders
- j. Students and faculty opposing any requirement to complete intermediate algebra
- k. CSU Employees Union (CSUEU) thanking the outgoing president of SDSU for opening communication channels with collective bargaining units
- l. CSUEU expressing concerns that public-private partnerships at Stan State are taking away staff positions

The board chair's report was given by vice chair Adam Day. He thanked the public speakers, thanked President Hirshman for his work at SDSU, and congratulated the five CSU presidents (at Chico, Sonoma, Stanislaus, San Jose, and Channel Islands) on their recent investiture ceremonies on the close of their first year in their positions. He pointed out that all five of these campus presidents are women and spoke on the important role of women in higher education administrative positions. He also spoke on the importance of diversity and inclusion at all levels of the university including administration. In the context of past, present and future – he talked about the recent discovery of extremely ancient human remains by a SDSU professor, the recent Frost gift of \$110 million to Cal Poly SLO, and the launching of the CSUN student built CubeSat satellite into earth orbit. He spoke of the importance of the ASCSU and recognized the packet of resolutions that had been forwarded to the board for this meeting. He closed with a statement regarding the recently completed state audit dealing with the growth in the number of CSU management personnel, accountability of CSU budget and compensation of CSU executives; there were no findings of mismanagement.

The Chancellor started with a statement in compliance with the California education code stating that East Bay will be implementing freshmen and transfer impaction, and Chico and Los Angeles will be implementing program impaction on specific majors [unnamed] starting 2018-2019. Also that Pomona and San Francisco will discontinue specific class levels and academic programs [again, unnamed] starting 2018-2019.

The chancellor's report covered the need for proper state funding of the CSU and the Graduation Initiative 2025 and applauded the federal approval for year-round Pell Grants. He stressed the importance of advocacy efforts at all levels for the CSU and what the CSU represents to the citizenry and economy of California. He closed by commenting on the recent passing of two past CSU campus presidents: Milt Gordon (Fullerton) and Al Karnig (San Bernardino).

Chris Miller gave the ASCSU chair's report. She announced the election results of the ASCSU officers and executive committee for 2017-2018; she will continue as senate chair for 2017-2018. She expressed the need to stay in balance and that it's not something you find, but is something you create; it was in this context that she presented selected resolutions passed during the May ASCSU Plenary session covering:

- a. Campus accommodation of military students' service obligations
- b. Establishment of a task force to explore models of employment security for senior contingent faculty, librarians, coaches and counselors
- c. Support for active learning and high impact practices in CSU Graduation Initiative 2025
- d. Regarding lack of consultation on the drafting of a CSU Intellectual Property Policy
- e. Expression of respect for CSUSB no-confidence vote in their campus president
- f. Violation of confidentiality of CSUSB presidential search process and censure of Trustee Emeritus Lou Monville and Mr. Paul Granillo
- g. Response deadlines being too short to provide proper feedback on revising Executive Order 1100

The CSSA president's report was given by David Lopez. He announced the election results of the CSSA officers for 2017-2018; departing student trustee Maggie White will be the CSSA chair for 2017-2018. He covered the important resolutions passed by CSSA this past year. He announced and presented the following CSSA awards:

- a. Administrator of the Year – Assistant Vice Chancellor Kathleen Shervia
- b. Trustee of the Year – Lateefah Simon
- c. President of the Year – Judy Sakaki, Sonoma State

Dia Poole provided the CSU Alumni Council report. She announced that Manolo Morales will be the next president of the CSU Alumni Council. She spoke of the opportunities for alumni to assist in the Graduation Initiative 2025 in career preparation and the meeting of basic student needs such

as food, housing and emergency grants. She also covered their advocacy efforts for full funding of the CSU. Manolo was then introduced and he briefly spoke about his involvement in student government at Humboldt State in 2005 and advocacy activities since then.