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Faculty Trustee's Report

CSU Board of Trustees Meeting – Nov. 17-18, 2020 (virtual)

Hereby I respectfully submit a summary of the Board of Trustees meeting. My report is largely based on the agenda materials provided to the trustees and to the public, my personal notes, my memory, and a partial review of the archived livestream of the meeting accessible at

<https://www2.calstate.edu/csu-system/board-of-trustees/past-meetings/2020/Pages/november-17-18-2020.aspx>

I tried my best to accurately reflect the deliberations, and I hope to have quoted correctly and paraphrased in the spirit of the speakers' and presenters' intentions. If you notice any inaccuracy or misrepresentation, please let me know (Romey.Sabalius@sjsu.edu).

This last meeting of the Board of Trustees in 2020 had to be conducted virtually again, like all Board meetings since March. The public was invited to comment live for one and a half hours at the beginning of the meeting or to submit their comments in writing.

I presume that the topics of the greatest interest to the faculty would be the controversial implementation of the Ethnic Studies requirement (section 8.b) as well as the 2021-2022 Operating Budget Request (section 9.e and 16.a).

I hope that you were able to stay healthy, productive, and optimistic throughout these difficult times, and I wish you happy holidays and a good start into a hopefully much better new year.

Romey Sabalius

San José, CA – Thanksgiving 2020

Faculty Trustee's Report

CSU Board of Trustees Meeting: Nov. 17-18, 2020 (virtual)

On November 17 and 18, the CSU Board of Trustees meeting was held virtually via Zoom due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On November 17, at 8:30 am

1. The **Board of Trustees** met in **Closed Session** to discuss Executive Personnel Matters and to receive a report on Pending Litigation.
2. The **Committee on Collective Bargaining** convened in **Closed Session**.
[Note: According to California Education Code § 66602 (c2) the faculty trustee “shall not participate on any subcommittee of the board responsible for collective bargaining negotiations.”]

The **Public Meeting** started at 10:50 am.

3. Due to the meeting modality, all **Public Comments** were made at the beginning of the open session. There were approximately 80 speakers and about a dozen submitted written comments.

Five speakers expressed their support for the Chico Master Plan Revision, among them Trustee Emeritus Bob Linscheid and the Chico City Manager.

Many staff union leaders (Teamsters Local 2010 and CSUEU) bemoaned staff lay-offs despite no lack of work on campuses and plenty of deferred maintenance. They called on the CSU to draw on its reserves instead of terminating employees. They also criticized the raises for the new Chancellor (30%) and two new Presidents (10%).

CFA Leaders (Charles Toombs, Kevin Wehr, Steven Filling) echoed the critique. Wehr accused the Chancellor's Office of a “power grab” by trying to limit faculty rights in collective bargaining, and Filling pointed out that systemwide enrollment is strong and students need more resources during the crisis. He called on the Chancellor's Office to “put the state's money where state's values are.”

Many speakers opposed the planned implementation of the new Ethnic Studies requirement as being too restrictive (see more in section 8.b), and representatives of the Be Free Movement demanded more anti-racism policies.

Members of Students for Quality Education (SQE) called for the defunding and the demilitarization of university police departments. They want these resources to provide for student basic needs, including affordable housing and mental health services, and they demanded the creation of or support for Black, Latinx, LGBTQ, and Dreamer resource centers.

4. **The Committee on Collective Bargaining**

- a. approved by consent as an action item the *Ratification of the Successor Collective Bargaining Agreement with Bargaining Unit 8, the Statewide University Police Association.*

[Apparently, this was a last-minute agreement and no materials were included in the agenda]

5. **The Committee on Audit**

- a. received by consent as an information item the *Status Report on Audit and Advisory Services Activities.*

“For the 2020 audit plan year, assignments were made to execute individual campus audit plans and conduct financial, operational, compliance, and information technology audits; use continuous auditing techniques and data analytics tools; and provide advisory services and investigation reviews.”

“Audit and Advisory Services continues to make progress on the 2020-2021 audit plan. Sixteen audits have been completed as part of the 2020-2021 audit plan and 20 audits are currently in-process.”

6. **The Committee on Committees**

- a. approved by consent as an action item *Amendments to Board of Trustees’ Standing Committee Assignments for 2020-2021.*

Two out-going Trustees (Rebecca Eisen and Hugo Morales) were taken off the committee roster, and three newly appointed Trustees were added (Diego Arambula, Jack Clarke, Jr., and Anna Ortiz-Morfit).

7. **The Committee on Institutional Advancement**

- a.-g. approved as action items seven different namings of buildings and facilities on four campuses. The donated amounts exceed \$67.4 million in total.

8. **The Committee on Educational Policy**

- a. received as an information item a report on *Student-Veterans.*

“More than 18,000 military-affiliated students attend the 23 campuses of the CSU system. These students bring a diversity of life experience to their campuses, enriching the experience for all the students of the CSU.

In November 2019, the CSU achieved an important milestone when two remaining campuses dedicated new Veterans Resource Centers (VRCs) to serve military-affiliated students. This completes the goal of all 23 CSU campuses having a dedicated space for military-affiliated students, allowing them to better access the wide range of services provided to support their academic pursuits.”

Trustees would like to see CSU outreach and recruiting to active service members and recent veterans “before they exhaust their benefits” (Fong) or to prevent them from “getting ripped off by for-profit universities” (McGrory).

- b. approved as an action item the Recommended Amendment to Title 5 Regarding Ethnic Studies.

In his presentation, Loren Blanchard, Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, hailed the incorporation of the Ethnic Studies requirement into General Education (GE) as “lifting it to a place of prominence in our curriculum alongside other foundational subjects expected to underpin a CSU baccalaureate degree, and to fulfill our moral imperative to equip CSU graduates with the knowledge and skills they need to understand and to address racial injustice.” He further maintained that “this approach minimizes obstacles for students and presents a consistent and straight-forward path to graduation” for both first-year students as well as for transfer students.

Alison Wrynn, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Programs, Innovations, and Faculty Development, stressed that “the core competencies are wholly the work of CSU faculty with complete autonomy,” [...] “developed by the Ethnic Studies Council, endorsed by the Academic Senate and accepted by the CSUCO.” “Our goal is to develop a systemwide CSU policy that offers clarity and consistency for students regardless of their chosen campus, major, or entry point.” Furthermore, to imbed the Ethnic Studies requirement in lower-division GE will not create a burden for high-unit majors. The expedited timeline for implementation is a result of the conditions in the approved legislation (AB1460).

In closing, EVC Blanchard affirmed that upper-division courses could fulfill this lower-division requirement, that the Ethnic Studies requirement may also satisfy another requirement in the major, and that faculty have complete autonomy in determining which courses to approve for this requirement, and additional learning outcomes could be added to reflect the respective campus culture.

Prompted by a question from Trustee Fong about concerns raised by the statewide Academic Senate in a recent resolution, AVC Wrynn responded that the status quo cannot be maintained, and “faculty continue to have complete autonomy in the development of all courses that will be utilized to meet this requirement.” Also, “CSU GE policy ensures that local campus curricular processes will continue to be respected.”

Trustee Steinhauser supports the inclusion of the Ethnic Studies requirement in lower-division GE. The Long Beach Unified School District has collaborated with CSU Long Beach so that junior and senior high school students can take college-level courses, and many of them complete between 6 to 12 units in Ethnic Studies by the time they graduate from high school. He deems it “important to have our students take these courses as early as possible.”

Trustee Sabalius declared that he will vote for the proposal, which merely cuts “and Social Justice” from the title of the new “Ethnic Studies” requirement as presented in an information item at the September Board meeting followed by the required 45-day public notice period. It would not reflect the will of the faculty to vote against this recommended amendment, which furthermore is necessary to bring the Board’s July Title V change into compliance with the subsequently passed Assembly Bill 1460.

However, he clearly stated that the faculty has expressed its opposition to the implementation plan of the Chancellor’s Office, as articulated by the Council on Ethnic

Studies (the representative body of the disciplinary faculty), the union of the faculty (CFA, who sponsored the Ethnic Studies bill), and –most recently– also the Academic Senate of the CSU (the official voice of the faculty). Additionally, 18 campus Academic Senates have passed resolutions criticizing the implementation plan.

Trustee Sabalius further elaborated that the faculty does not necessarily want the Ethnic Studies requirement be situated within General Education and not solely on the lower-division level. Instead, they want to adopt it as a free-standing graduation requirement. They also request campus autonomy in the implementation, because conditions on all campuses are quite different and one systemwide policy is not suitable for all 23 campuses. Furthermore, they expect the Board to amend Title V to reverse the cut to GE area D (Social Sciences) to accommodate the new Ethnic Studies requirement in the GE package.

Trustee Sabalius acknowledged, though, that previously the faculty supported the inclusion of the Ethnic Studies requirement in GE. Yet, based on further scrutiny, they now believe that it would be too restrictive, and they hope that the implementation plan can be altered in on-going shared governance discussions with the Chancellor’s Office.

Trustee Taylor called it “the typical CSU conundrum where 23 campuses want as much flexibility as possible;” yet, we have a legislative mandate for a systemwide requirement, with which we need to comply.

Trustee McGrory cautioned that if the Ethnic Studies requirement will not be imbedded in General Education, students will have to take 48 units of GE courses plus 3 units of the required Ethnic Studies, and he deems that to be a too strong limitation on the students’ ability to choose electives.

Chancellor White closed the discussion by stating that faculty form their perspective through their particular disciplinary lens. But the Board has to view through “the lens of the California State University,” and it “has the responsibility to make sure it works for all of our students.”

c. received as an information item a report on the Graduation Initiative 2025.

EVC Blanchard proudly stated that –despite the pandemic– the CSU has graduated a record number of students (nearly 110,000), enrolled the largest student body in its history (about 486,000), and achieved its best first-year retention rate ever (over 85%).

James Minor, Assistant Vice Chancellor and Senior Strategist for Academic Success and Inclusive Excellence, reported progress towards the goals of the Graduate Initiative 2025, despite the challenges of the sudden conversion to remote instructions due to the public health crisis.

- | | (2015) | (2020) | (2025) |
|--|--------|--------|--------|
| For Freshmen | | | |
| • the 4-Year-Graduation rate improved from 19% to 31% with a goal of 40% | | | |
| • the 6-Year-Graduation rate improved from 57% to 62% with a goal of 70% | | | |
| For Transfer Students | | | |
| • the 2-Year-Graduation rate improved from 31% to 44% with a goal of 45% | | | |
| • the 4-Year-Graduation rate improved from 73% to 79% with a goal of 85% | | | |

The equity gap

- for Pell Grant students was reduced by 1% this year and currently stands at 9.2%
- for underrepresented minority students was reduced by 0.6% and stands at 10.5% with the ambitious goal to eliminate these equity gaps altogether.

9. **The Committee on Finance**

- a. approved by consent as an action item the 2021-2022 Lottery Budget and Report.

“The System Budget Office at the Chancellor’s Office conservatively estimates total lottery receipts available to the CSU in 2021-2022 will be \$58.9 million. After setting aside \$5 million as a reserve to assist with cashflow variations in quarterly lottery receipts and other economic uncertainties, the \$53.9 million 2021-2022 lottery budget proposal remains principally designated for campus-based programs and five systemwide programs that have traditionally received annual lottery funding support.”

- b. provided by consent as an action item the Conceptual Approval of Public-Private Partnerships for the Development of SDSU Mission Valley.

“The physical plan for the public-private partnership projects at the Mission Valley Site remains consistent with prior presentations to the Board of Trustees, notably the January 2020 SDSU Mission Valley Campus Master Plan. Conceptual approval is requested to pursue public-private partnerships for the following projects at the Mission Valley Site:

- A 1.6 million gross square foot research and innovation district, consisting of up to 15 projects, containing commercial, technology, and office space. [...] Up to 5,000 garage parking spaces will be provided beneath the buildings south of the stadium.
- Up to 4,600 residential units, consisting of up to 18 projects, located on the east side of the Mission Valley Site. In accordance with the Purchase and Sale Agreement, 10 percent of the units (or up to 460 units) will be income-qualified affordable housing leased to individuals or families at 60 percent average median income. [...] The residential projects will be constructed pursuant to long term ground leases with private developers at fair market value.
- Up to a 400-room hotel project with approximately 40,000 square feet of conference space, up to 70 residential units above the hotel, and approximately 425 parking stalls, will be constructed pursuant to a long-term ground lease with a private developer at fair market value.
- Up to 95,000 square feet of retail space located within the planned residential, academic, and research projects. These retail uses will serve stadium events, the daily needs of employees, students, and residents, in addition to the greater Mission Valley community, through various buildings, facilities, and services.”

- c. received by consent as an information item the CSU Annual Investment Report.

The following chart was included in the agenda:

CSU Investments – Balances, Allocations, and Returns (June 30, 2020)

	% of CSU	Twelve Month	
	Balance	Investments	Returns
Liquidity Portfolio (SWIFT)	\$3.489 billion	73.8%	3.28%
Total Return Portfolio (TRP)	\$1.110 billion	23.5%	1.79%
Surplus Money Investment Fund (SMIF)	\$129.2 million	2.7%	1.70%
CSU Investments	\$4.73 billion	100%	

[For clarification, the following is quoted from the Faculty Trustee Report of the September Board meeting:

“Robert Eaton, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Financing, Treasury, and Risk Management, explained that “investments” and “reserves” are essentially the same funds. The Total Return Portfolio aspires to generate a better return than funds in the Liquidity Portfolio, which are used to conduct cash transactions on a daily basis. The Surplus Money Investment Fund retains a relatively small amount of money to facilitate transactions with the state, mostly for pay-roll. The reserves can be parsed up between funds for capital (i.e., buildings and grounds), for short-term obligations, and for economic uncertainties (the latter representing our unencumbered reserves or “rainy day fund”).]

- d. received by consent as an information item the Annual Systemwide Report on Hate Incidents on Campus.

“In the 2019 calendar year there were a total of five reported incidents of hate violence and four reported instances of non-criminal acts of hate violence on six campuses. Numerous campus departments are involved in efforts to prevent hate violence and respond with care and compassion to allegations of hate violence when they are reported.”

- e. approved as an action item the 2021-2022 Operating Budget Request.

Ryan Storm, Assistant Vice Chancellor for the Budget, explained the altered budget request as compared to the proposal during the September Board meeting. The revised proposal totals \$556 instead of \$237.5 million. While the request to fund the *Graduation Initiative 2025* with \$150 million remained the same, the amount within that sum allocated to the *Basic Needs Initiative* increased from \$15 to \$30 million [due to the insistence of the Student Trustees during the September meeting]. The ask to cover *Mandatory Costs* was increased from \$47.5 to \$57 million. The funding request for *Academic Facilities & Infrastructure Needs* was increased from \$10 to \$50. This recurring money would fund bonds in the amount of \$900 million to address the CSU’s deferred maintenance issues [exactly as Trustee Sabalius requested during the previous Board meeting]. Also, the current proposal includes a 100% *General Fund Restoration* instead of merely 10%, which is \$299 rather than \$30 [also suggested by Trustee Sabalius in September]. If fully funded, the CSU Operating Budget would grow to \$7.5 billion.

Steve Relyea, Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer, added that – just like in past years– the Chancellor’s Office will prepare a written tuition proposal for the student leadership. The CSU does not intend to increase tuition, but it is a

notification requirement that is exercised “in case that any severe state budget cuts might become evident in the spring or summer 2021.”

Trustee Sabalius thanked the Chancellor’s Office for submitting a robust budget request (\$318.5 million more), and he expressed his expectation that –when funded accordingly– furloughs will be avoided. He is, however, surprised that no one-time funding line items have been suggested, and he would like to see a one-time request added to support *Training for Faculty in Online Instruction*. According to the Chancellor, 60% of faculty already received such training, and \$24 million could provide professional development for another 30%. Since Trustee Sabalius is not a member of the committee, he could not make that motion, and the discussion continued in the session of the entire Board (see section 16.a).

Trustee McGrory inquired about another stimulus package from the federal government, which is expected to include support for higher education, and he also wondered whether we should do more to help our auxiliaries (housing, dining, parking, etc.) with their devastating loss of revenue [just as Trustee Sabalius also suggested during the September meeting]. EVC Relyea said that the campuses have moved very quickly to reduce operating costs. Additionally, the system helps campuses with liquidity, and he referred to an upcoming agenda item (see section 12.a).

Trustee Taylor inquired about lay-offs. EVC Relyea replied that –notwithstanding that any lay-offs are painful– the CSU did remarkably well in keeping them to a minimum in light of a nearly 7% cut in state support. Chancellor White clarified that on the stateside (not including auxiliaries) 1.4% of represented employees and 2.2% on the management side have lost their jobs.

Trustee McGrory reiterated that using all of our reserves in one year would be “completely irresponsible” when the state expects this to be a three-year financial crisis. AVC Storm specified that \$180.4 million of campus reserves are planned to be used this year [from a pool of somewhat under \$500 million in total reserves].

Trustee Adamson presumed and Evelyn Nazario, Vice Chancellor for Human Resources, confirmed that the CSU has no contractual obligations to provide salary increases for members of the bargaining units, except at the occasion of promotion or range elevation as well as when the state minimum wage increases.

In order to “manage expectations,” Chancellor White reminded the Board that it made “mid \$500 million requests year-in and year-out during the good years in California,” and the state has usually funded only about half of it.

- f. received as an information item an *Update on a Public-Private Partnership for the Central Utility Plant Replacement at Fresno*.

“The approximately \$170 million total project cost will be funded primarily through financing provided by the developer. [...] The developer will be responsible to design, build, finance, and maintain the project. [...] Over the term of the agreement, the campus will make quarterly payments to the developer that include both a capital charge and a services charge. The payments shall be subject to deductions for performance failures. The quarterly payments will not include the cost of the commodity (e.g. electricity,

natural gas). The quarterly payments are expected to be approximately \$12 million per year.”

[Still-]President Castro underscored the critical importance of the project because “the current central plant was built when Eisenhower was US President,” and the campus will bring more detailed financial information to the Board at the next meeting when it will be an action item.

10. The Committee on Campus Planning, Buildings and Grounds

- a. approved by consent as an information item the Fullerton Arboretum Joint Powers Authority Dissolution.

“Fullerton Arboretum is a 26-acre botanical garden located on the northeast corner of the CSU Fullerton. It is the largest botanical garden in Orange County, with a collection of over 4,500 different species of plants.”

“A Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement between the Redevelopment Agency of the City of Fullerton and the Trustees of the California State University in March 1976 that created the Fullerton Arboretum Authority to manage the arboretum expires on December 3, 2020. Upon expiration of the agreement, sole ownership and operation of the Arboretum will return to the Trustees of the CSU. California State University, Fullerton intends to maintain the Arboretum as a unique asset of campus community and educational program.”

“Beginning December 4, 2020, the Arboretum will be administered by CSU Fullerton Extension and International Programs. The Arboretum facilities, landscape, grounds, and utilities will be maintained by the university. The estimated annual maintenance and operating costs are approximately \$1.5 million, which will be funded by sources that include revenue from operations, philanthropic support from donors, and payouts from the endowment fund.”

- b. approved by consent as an action item the 2021-2022 through 2025-2026 Multi-Year Capital Plan.

“The Multi-Year Capital Plan identifies campus capital priorities to address facility deficiencies and accommodate student enrollment growth. Campuses have identified a total need of more than \$23.4 billion for the five-year period with over \$16.8 billion from systemwide revenue bonds, general obligation bonds, and other state capital funding and approximately \$6.6 billion from self-support activities and other funding.”

More than half of CSU’s academic facilities are over 30 years old and a quarter are over 60 years old.

- c. approved as an action item the Chico Master Plan Revision, which includes the “certification of the 2030 Physical Master Plan Update Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) dated November 2020; and approval of the proposed 2030 Physical Master Plan Update (Master Plan Revision), including an increase in the enrollment ceiling from 15,800 FTE to 18,600 FTE.”

Trustee McGrory praised the exemplary cooperation with the city and the community in the development of this plan.

- d. approved as an action item the San Francisco State University Science Replacement Building for a grand total of \$170 million.

Trustee Faigin criticized that in the agenda the funding for this large amount was explained in just one sentence.

11. The Joint Committee on Finance and Campus Planning, Buildings and Grounds

- a. approved by consent as an action item the San José State University Spartan Athletics Center for a grand total of \$57.6 million.

12. The Joint Committee on Finance and Organization and Rules

- a. approved as an action item the Delegation of Financing Approval for Auxiliary Liquidity Loans.

“By statute, the CSU is not allowed to borrow for liquidity or working capital – it may only borrow to finance capital projects. [...] COVID-19 has put CSU auxiliaries under significant financial pressure, principally due to the loss of revenues to support ongoing operations. [...] [A]uxiliaries have explored borrowing funds from local banks and other lenders to increase liquid resources. [...] Because there may be a need to act quickly to secure such liquidity resources, particularly in the current COVID-19 environment, this item requests a revision to the California State University Board of Trustees’ Standing Orders to specify authority delegated to the chancellor to approve auxiliary liquidity borrowings outside of the CSU’s established Systemwide Revenue Bond and commercial paper programs, subject to the following parameters:

- Maximum amount: \$40,000,000;
- Maximum length of any borrowing, loan, or line of credit: Ten years;

[...]

Notwithstanding this proposed addition to the standing orders, any auxiliary financing with issues or concerns will still be presented to the Board of Trustees for approval. Any auxiliary financings approved under this delegated authority will be reported to the Board of Trustees.”

Trustee Sabalius requested this item to be removed from the consent calendar. He expressed his bewilderment that such an important item involving such large amounts of money would be presented as an action item without being previously presented to the Board as an information item and then –on top of it– in consent, where it would receive no scrutiny, discussion, or explanation.

He reasoned that since this authority is granted as a response to the current COVID and financial emergency, it should terminate when the crisis is over in approximately three to five years. Trustee Sabalius also expressed his dissatisfaction with the vague reporting requirement to the Board on “any auxiliary financing with issues or concerns.”

The committee agreed to limit this authority to three years with the potential to be extended if regarded as beneficial and necessary. Furthermore, the Trustees shall receive a report at every Board meeting on the exercise of this authority instead of annually as proposed.

13. The Joint Committee on Organization and Rules

- a. approved as an action item *Amendments to the Rules Governing the Board of Trustees.*

Trustee Faigin requested the removal of this item from the consent calendar for explanation by Andrew Jones, Executive Vice Chancellor and General Counsel.

“The changes to Section 4 of Part I clarify that the Chief Audit Officer reports directly to the Board of Trustees, but also has a ‘dotted line’ or ‘administrative’ reporting relationship to the Chancellor for purposes of general administration, staff personnel, budget and office space. The changes also clarify the long-standing practice that the Chancellor evaluates all Vice Chancellors, with the exception of the Vice Chancellor and Chief Audit Officer, who is evaluated by the Board. In the discussion concerning the appointment and evaluation of the Vice Chancellors, the proposed changes remove a superfluous reference in that sentence to the General Counsel, who is also a Vice Chancellor.”

14. The Committee on University and Faculty Personnel

- a. approved by consent as an action item the *Annual Report on Outside Employment for Senior Management Employees.*

“For purposes of this policy, senior management includes presidents, vice presidents, executive/vice chancellors and the chancellor.”

- b. received by consent as an information item the *Annual Report on Vice President Compensation, Executive Relocation, and Executive Transition.*

“Current trustee policy requires the chancellor to review and approve recommendations for vice presidential compensation at the initial appointment and subsequently. Additionally, the chancellor is to provide an annual report on vice president compensation if compensation actions have been taken. Attachment A shows 35 vice president compensation actions systemwide during the reporting period (September 1, 2019 – August 31, 2020). For fiscal year 2019-2020 there was no compensation pool for merit salary increases.”

- c. approved as an action item the *Executive Compensation for the Interim President at Fresno.*

Dr. Saúl Jiménez-Sandoval, the campus’ current Provost, will receive an annual salary of \$348,423 (the same salary as the current President) plus a \$12,000 auto allowance. “Dr. Jiménez-Sandoval will not be required to reside in the president’s residence and will not receive a housing allowance as a result of serving as interim president.”

- d. approved as an action item the *Executive Compensation for the Interim President at Channel Islands.*

Dr. Richard Yao, the campus’ current Vice President for Student Affairs, will receive an annual salary of \$307,740 plus a \$60,000 housing and a \$12,000 auto allowance (the same salary and allowances as the current President).

- e. approved as an action item the *Executive Compensation for the Vice Chancellor and Chief Audit Officer.*

Current Interim Chief Audit Officer, Vlad Marinescu, received a permanent appointment to this position with no change in his current compensation of \$267,552 annually.

The Board of Trustees adjourned the meeting of the committees at 5:10 pm.

The Board of Trustees reconvened its meeting on November 18 at 8:00 am.

15. The **Board of Trustees** met in **Closed Session** to discuss Executive Personnel Matters.

At 9:00 am, Chair Kimbell called the full **Board of Trustees Meeting** to order.

16. The **Board of Trustees**

- a. approved as an action item the resolutions that were previously passed in the various committees with the exception of the 2021-2022 Operating Budget Request, which was taken off the consent agenda by Trustee Sabalius.

He reiterated his desire to request funding to train faculty in online instruction. Yet, based on the previous committee discussion, Trustee Sabalius reduced his request to \$9 million to train approximately 3,000 faculty members (about 10%). However, this should not be a one-time funding request, but a permanent addition to the operating budget, because the need for training in technology and online instruction will be an on-going necessity that will not end after next year (see proposed addition in chart below).

Chancellor White spoke against such an addition, because he perceives line item requests as limiting budget flexibility.

Incremental Expenditures	in million
Graduation Initiative 2025	\$150.0
<i>Campus Highest Priorities</i>	<i>120.0</i>
<i>Basic Needs Initiative</i>	<i>30.0</i>
Mandatory Costs	57.0
<i>AB 1460-Ethnic Studies Requirement</i>	<i>16.5</i>
<i>Health Benefits</i>	<i>23.8</i>
<i>Operations & Maintenance of New Facilities</i>	<i>11.3</i>
<i>Minimum Wage</i>	<i>5.4</i>
Academic Facilities & Infrastructure Needs	50.0
<u>Training Faculty in Online Instruction</u>	<u>9.0</u>
General Fund Restoration	299.0
Total Incremental Expenditures	<u>\$565.0</u>

The motion from Trustee Sabalius was defeated by a substitute motion from Trustee Day to adopt the budget request of the Chancellor’s Office as presented.

b. received the following *Reports*:

Robert Collins, *Chair of the Academic Senate CSU (ASCSU)*, made an appeal to “never give up on our common unity.” He summarized the resolutions that the ASCSU passed during its plenary in November, and he especially highlighted a resolution in opposition to the Chancellor’s Office’s implementation plan of the Ethnic Studies requirement [passed during a special meeting of the ASCSU].

Zahraa Khuraibet, *President of the California State Student Association*, reported that 21,000 CSU students had registered to vote.

The CSSA Board of Directors passed a COVID-19 policy agenda to adjust to the unique challenges as a result of the pandemic. The priorities are to

- provide access to housing, food, financial, and wellness resources as well as technological resources such as laptops, hotspots, and reliable internet for all CSU students
- foster inclusive virtual learning practices that ensure the academic and holistic success of all students with particular attention to Zoom privacy concerns, grading policies (especially a “credit/no credit option”), proctoring issues, and professional development for faculty to better support students
- protect the health and safety of those who are physically present on campuses and to ensure an eventual safe re-population
- adjust government laws and internal regulations to a virtual work space, and to consult students on budget processes as well as to provide transparency regarding the use of student fees.

Further, President Khuraibet lamented that “students on average pay three times more for parking than faculty and staff” as a result of collective bargaining, and she requested that the burden for the cost of parking be distributed more equitably.

Michelle Power, *President of the Alumni Council*, highlighted a “very special CSU alumnus.” She referred to Chancellor White, who is an immigrant and a first-generation student, who received an undergraduate and a master’s degree from the CSU. “It has been an honor to be led by someone who was ‘made in the CSU’.”

Lillian Kimbell, *Chair of the Board of Trustees*, welcomed the three newly appointed Trustees, the two new campus Presidents, and the new Chancellor. Like all previous speakers, she also paid tribute to the accomplishments of Chancellor White during his eight years of CSU leadership.

Chair Kimbell asserted that in times “marked by deep division, distrust, and misinformation,” the CSU has “built a true sanctuary of civility.” She cited “our respect and unwavering commitment to shared governance and academic freedom, our modeling of authentic civil discourse, our culture of caring, and –above all– our shared vision and commitment to inclusive excellence and our data-driven efforts to advance equity and success for all students.”

“With direction and common purpose, the CSU has navigated change and challenge.” During the past eight years, the system “has filled 20 presidential posts, endured recessions with prudent fiscal choices, diversified the workforce, set ambitious goals to

eliminate equity gaps, [...] and created sustainable campuses.” “With creativity and resolve, we not only survived, but thrived through this unimaginable pandemic.”

b. approved as action items the

Conferral of Title of President Emerita on Dianne Harrison.

Conferral of Title of President Emeritus on Leroy Morishita.

Conferral of Title of Chancellor Emeritus on Timothy White.

c. *Reflections from Chancellor Timothy White.*

Chancellor White thanked the CSU community for their trust in him and their hard work and cooperation. He expressed his pride in the CSU workforce and its resilient students. He has faith in the promise of the California State University to transform students’ lives and to enable them to fulfill their potential. “I opine that our promise positions the CSU as *the* exemplar for great public universities everywhere that are engaging multicultural populations.”

[During the Chancellor’s speech, which was delivered from his office in Long Beach, the honking of multiple cars and amplified chants were audible from the outside]

17. The Board convened in **Closed Session** to discuss *Executive Personnel Matters* (six-year performance review of a president).

The Board of Trustees meeting was officially adjourned on Wednesday, November 18, at approximately 12:30 pm.