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CSU Board of Trustees Meeting January 29-31, 2024

Faculty Trustee Report Darlene Yee-Melichar

The CSU Board of Trustees meets six times a year. Meetings allow for communication among the Trustees, Chancellor, campus presidents, Academic Senate, California State Student Association and Alumni Council.

The 2024 Meeting Schedule of the Board began on January 29-31, 2024. It started in the morning on Monday, January 29 (half day) in Closed Session for discussion about Executive Personnel Matters [Government Code §11126(a)(1)] and Pending Litigation [Government Code §11126(e)(1)]. The Board then met on Tuesday, January 30 at 8:30am-10:30am in Closed Session for discussion about Honorary Degree Nominations and Subcommittee Recommendations [Government Code §11126(c)(5)] and Collective Bargaining [Government Code §3596(d)]. It met the rest of the day and on Wednesday, January 31 in Open Session for public comments, information items and action items.

The Board's full agenda and background materials (268 pages) for the January 2024 meeting are available at <https://www.calstate.edu/csu-system/board-of-trustees/past-meetings/2024/Documents/jan-29-31-FULL-BINDER.pdf>. The Board meetings are broadcast live to the public; you may access the live stream videos on YouTube associated with Open Session at <https://www.calstate.edu/csu-system/board-of-trustees/past-meetings/Pages/January-29-31-2024.aspx>.

For the full Board and committee meetings held in Open Session, I provide links to the specific meeting materials and videos; brief summaries using ChatGPT with technical assistance provided by [SF State Academic Technology](#) and in concurrence with my personal meeting notes; and share my brief queries or requests for feedback below for your consideration. If you have any comments, corrections, and/or questions regarding my Faculty Trustee Report, please let me know (dyee@calstate.edu). I look forward to hearing from you; **thank you**.

###

January 29-31, 2024 (Full Agenda)

On January 29-31, 2024, the meeting of the CSU Board of Trustees was held at the Chancellor's Office in Long Beach.

On Monday, January 29, at 1:00 p.m., the Board convened in Closed Session to discuss Executive Personnel Matters and Pending Litigation including Jane Doe v. CSU, et al.; CFA, et al. v. García, et al.; and Frank Lamas v. CSU.

On Tuesday, January 30, at 8:30 a.m., the Board continued in Closed Session for the Educational Policy Committee to discuss Honorary Degree Nominations and Subcommittee Recommendations as well as for the Committee on Collective Bargaining discussion. In my role as Faculty Trustee, I am not party to this latter discussion. 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."

On Tuesday, January 30, at 10:30 a.m. and Wednesday, November 8, the Board convened in Open Session.

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

10:30 a.m. - Plenary Session (Day 1)

[Agenda](#)

[Video 1 \(Public Comment\)](#)

In a recent public comment session, Elena Macias (CSULB), Nancy Jodaitis (Immigrants Rising) and Adam Swenson (ASCSU, CSULB) voiced their concerns on various issues such as [AB 540](#), [AB 540 FAQ](#), and [AB 928](#) affecting the CSU community. Rose Carona Arbulu, Jessica Westbay, and Chris Cox urged the CSU Chancellor and Board of Trustees to endorse and utilize the AB 540 FAQ in their admissions practices (highlighting its significance in supporting undocumented students' higher education journeys), urged the Governor and Legislature to stay with the multi-year compact funding for the CSU, and expressed concern about communication tone used during collective bargaining.

Gerson Cortes Palacios (UndocuScholars), Medeleine Villanueva (Immigrants Rising), and Aldo Cruz Vasquez (UndocuScholars) called for the implementation of the AB 540 FAQ across the campuses in the CSU. Kevin Wehr, Megan O'Donnell and Margaret Goldman commented on the Tentative Agreement as progress toward CFA goals, Graduation Initiative 2025 and concerns about budget realignment based on FTEs, and academic freedom of Palestinian faculty and students with a call for a ceasefire resolution.

Grace Ji Hun Yeo (Immigrant Rising and UC Berkeley alumna), Bert Herrera, and Vincent Rasso (Campaign for College Opportunity) voiced the need for the AB 540 FAQ to serve eligible CSU students, commented on the Tentative Agreement for Unit 4 APC and dignified wages for their contributions to the CSU, and *Still Left Out* report detailing the racial, ethnic and gender diversity in leadership and faculty positions across California's higher education systems and need for solutions to combat exclusion in CSU leadership and T/TT faculty positions.

Maria Chem urged the Chancellor and BOT to sign onto and use the AB 540 FAQ and its admission practices. Dani Amador (Immigrants Rising and UC Berkeley alumna) echoed the need to sign onto and implement the AB 540 FAQ, and John Caravello (CSUCI) called for the CSU to divest from companies profiting from war and invest in campus communities instead. Sang Hea Kil and Julia Talante (CSUDH) criticized the CSU's silence on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and urged the leadership to prioritize marginalized students, including those of Palestinian, Arab, and Muslim backgrounds.

Charles Toombs (CFA) commented on the Tentative Agreement (TA) suggesting some members are not happy with it and that CSU Presidents can work with CFA campus chapters on Article 31.12. Amber Benyoucef (CSULB) emphasized the importance of peace and justice, contrasting these ideals with the CSU's alleged complicity in war crimes. She questioned the allocation of funds, urging the CSU to align its choices with its professed values.

Carlos Alarcon (Immigrants Rising), Denia Perez (Immigrants Rising), Vanessa Villamil Romero (CSULA) and Isabel Gomez Hernandez (UCSC) continued advocating for the AB 540 FAQ, sharing personal struggles as undocumented students and emphasizing the need for accessible resources and opportunities that reflect the CSU's rhetoric on diversity. Abel Alvarez Rosales (UC Merced) and Keily Escalante (CSULB) reiterated the call to implement the AB 540 FAQ and divest from companies associated with Israel's actions in Palestine, respectively. Remo Abboud, representing

the UC Divest Coalition and the Palestinian Youth Movement, criticized the CSU for investing in companies allegedly involved in bombings in Palestine and accused the Board of Trustees of having "blood on their hands." They also spoke out against tuition increases and arrests of pro-Palestinian activists.

Overall, the speakers addressed issues related to higher education access for undocumented students, divestment from companies profiting from conflict, and the CSU's values and actions concerning various global conflicts, particularly the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

10:30 a.m. - Plenary Session (Continued)

[Agenda](#)

[Video 2 \(Reports\)](#)

In a recent board meeting of the California State University (CSU) system, various speakers reported on the progress, challenges, and future goals of the CSU.

CSU Board of Trustees Chair Wenda Fong welcomed new leadership to the CSU and highlighted the appointments of Interim Presidents Sylvia Alva and Vernon Harper. She acknowledged Vice Chair Clark's humanitarian award and Cal State San Bernardino's Jim King Founders Award. Chair Fong also mentioned the successful negotiation of tentative agreements with CSU labor partners, emphasizing the balance between faculty and staff compensation and financial sustainability. She stressed the importance of strengthening trust and collaboration among CSU constituencies and enhancing advocacy efforts.

Beth Steffel, Chair of the Academic Senate CSU (ASCSU), acknowledged Black History Month and the ASCSU resolution to advance Black student success. She discussed recent ASCSU resolutions, including opposition to changing general education requirements and support for various transfer admission routes. Chair Steffel also highlighted the Academic Senate's support for the Unit 3 bargaining process and the importance of negotiating a fair contract for faculty.

Dominic Treseler, President of the California State Student Association (CSSA), introduced the CSSA as the official voice of CSU students. He discussed the CSSA's efforts to enhance student support and success, emphasizing the importance of collaboration with the Chancellor's Office and advocating for financial aid reform.

Adrian Harrell, representing the CSU Alumni Council, highlighted the Council's focus on alumni storytelling and the development of recommendations to expand alumni-student connections. She mentioned the allocation of funds for campus projects to increase student success through alumni connections.

CSU Chancellor Mildred García outlined the CSU's six-month goals, including trust-building, strategic planning, budget and labor relations, and implementation. She reported a 2% increase in enrollment and efforts to close the gap toward state enrollment targets. Chancellor García also addressed budget challenges, emphasizing the need for cost containment and the lack of new funding in the Governor's budget proposal. She highlighted progress in strengthening Title IX and anti-discrimination efforts and reaffirmed the CSU's commitment to student success and equity.

Overall, the speakers emphasized the importance of collaboration, advocacy, and strategic planning in advancing the CSU's mission and goals amidst financial constraints and challenges.

1:45 p.m.

[Committee on Collective Bargaining](#)

[Agenda, Video](#)

During the Committee on Collective Bargaining meeting, Trustee Steinhauser convened the committee and called for the approval of the consent agenda. No items were requested for separate discussion, and the agenda was approved unanimously without a roll call. With no further business to discuss, Trustee Steinhauser adjourned the meeting, and Chair Fong thanked him for

contributing to the committee's important work. The meeting was efficiently conducted, indicating a smooth process in handling collective bargaining matters within the committee.

1:50 p.m.

Committee on Audit

[Agenda, Video](#)

Trustee Rodriguez calls the Committee on Audit to order and immediately opens the floor to committee members to discuss or remove items from the consent agenda. Trustee Yee-Melichar raises two questions for clarification. The first question concerns the quality assurance review in the Chief Audit Officer's status report. Trustee Yee-Melichar asks about the objectives and metrics external higher education audit professionals use in this review. Vice Chancellor Vlad Marinescu provided a detailed response, explaining that the objective is to ensure conformity with internal audit standards and ethics and outlining the review process. He also mentions that the results will be shared with the Audit Committee in the upcoming March meeting.

The second question pertains to data analytics integration and its impact on the audit process. Trustee Yee-Melichar inquired about how integrating data analytics has enhanced the effectiveness of audits. Vice Chancellor Marinescu provides an informative response, highlighting how data analytics have improved audit planning, sample selection, and overall analysis.

After these clarifications, Trustee Rodriguez asked if there were any more questions from the Audit Committee. With no further questions or discussions, she concludes the session by announcing the approval of the consent agenda.

1:55 p.m.

Committee on Organization and Rules

[Agenda, Video](#)

Trustee Kimbell calls the Committee on Organization and Rules to order. Before proceeding with the consent agenda, she notes that an amended information item regarding the proposed 2025 meeting dates has been posted and distributed. This amendment ensures that the proposed September meeting dates do not conflict with the observance of the Rosh Hashanah holiday. The proposed 2025 meeting dates will be an action item in the March board meeting, and the committee plans to propose an update to the rules governing the Board of Trustees to adjust the annual approval process for meeting dates.

Following this brief introduction, Trustee Kimbell asks if any committee member wishes to remove any item from the consent agenda or if there are any objections to the approval of the consent agenda. With no objections or items to remove, the consent agenda is approved.

2:00 p.m.

Committee on Governmental Relations

[Agenda, Video](#)

The report covers various topics discussed in a meeting, including legislative proposals and the repatriation of Native American artifacts. Steve Relyea, the Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer, emphasizes the importance of advocating for legislative proposals that address

critical challenges faced by the CSU system. Nathan Dietrich, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Advocacy and State Relations, provides insights into the objectives and potential impact of each proposal, including in-state tuition for armed services members, extending low-income housing tax credits to CSU-owned land, and modernizing professional and continuing education programs.

Chancellor García and other speakers express the need for a formal apology to the Native American community for historical harm and commit to working on repatriation efforts. Trustee McGrory emphasizes the importance of action beyond a formal apology and the need for a respectful repatriation process. Trustee Yee-Melichar inquired about the systemwide policy being developed for repatriation and the allocation of financial resources to support the process.

Lieutenant Governor Kounalakis highlights the need for transparency and accountability in the repatriation process, while Trustee Rodriguez stresses the importance of including Native American representation in committees overseeing the handling of human remains. Trustee Adamson and Trustee Arambula inquire about the timeline for repatriation efforts and the importance of tribal consultation.

President Morales outlines plans to report progress on repatriation efforts and initiatives to enhance Native American relations within the CSU system. Trustee Gilbert-Lurie seeks guidance on overseeing progress and best practices from other institutions.

The Committee on Governmental Relations approves three legislative proposals for 2024, emphasizing the urgency of addressing the CSU's facility needs through a statewide facilities bond.

3:00 p.m.

Committee on Institutional Advancement

[Agenda, Video](#)

The Committee on Institutional Advancement discussed the annual report on donor support for the 2022-2023 academic year. EVC Relyea and President Sylvia Alva highlighted the impact of philanthropic support, totaling over \$557 million in gift commitments and nearly \$466 million in gift receipts. The Guardian Scholars Program at Cal State Fullerton, supported by private donors like the Orange Wood Foundation, was showcased as a success story, aiding former foster youth in achieving graduation rates comparable to their peers.

Becky Wells, an alumna and the first graduate of the Guardian Scholars Program, shared her transformative journey, emphasizing the program's role in her academic and professional achievements. Trustee Arambula praised the fundraising efforts and the impact of individual stories on these efforts. Trustee Firstenberg emphasized the importance of storytelling in changing perceptions and driving fundraising success.

Trustee Adamson highlighted the significance of supporting programs that help reestablish life for families and stressed the power of storytelling in fundraising. Trustee Gilbert-Lurie discussed the untapped potential in fundraising and the need for a more strategic approach. Trustee McGrory emphasized the importance of aggressive fundraising goals and community support. Trustee Brar inquired about support for foster youth transitioning out of care, with Deputy Vice Chancellor Perez explaining the coordination among foster youth coordinators and student affairs teams across all 23 universities.

Trustee Vargas discussed leveraging personal stories for fundraising and the potential of a documentary series. Trustee Simon shared insights about the Guardian Scholars Program at San Francisco State University and the transformative impact on students. The motion to approve the annual report on donor support for the 2022-2023 academic year passed unanimously.

4:30 p.m.

[Joint Committee on Institutional Advancement and Educational Policy](#)
[Agenda, Video](#)

The joint committee, chaired by Trustee Arambula, began with the approval of the minutes from the January 2023 meeting. The main agenda item was recognizing the recipients of the 2024 Wang Family Excellence Awards, established in 1998 by Trustee Emeritus Stanley T. Wang to celebrate the achievements of faculty and staff within the California State University (CSU) system.

Chancellor García expressed gratitude to the Wang family for their support and introduced each awardee:

1. Dr. John Crockett from San Diego State University - Recognized for outstanding staff performance in enhancing the university's research enterprise and developing programs to support research funding.
2. Dr. Kelly Ansley Young from California State University, Long Beach - Acknowledged for exceptional faculty innovation in student success, particularly in creating student-centered learning environments in reproductive biology research.
3. Dr. Daniel Crocker from Sonoma State University - Honored for outstanding faculty scholarship in marine mammal physiology and behavior, as well as his commitment to mentoring students.
4. Dr. Allison Tintiangco-Cubales from San Francisco State University - Celebrated for outstanding faculty teaching, specifically for her innovative curriculum development in critical pedagogy and ethnic studies education.
5. Dr. Charles Toombs from San Diego State University - Awarded for outstanding faculty service, particularly for his advocacy for underrepresented communities and leadership in diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives.

Each awardee expressed gratitude and shared insights into their work and personal journeys, highlighting the impact of their contributions on the CSU community and beyond.

[Cal State East Bay](#)
[Video](#)

The presentation at the California State University (CSU) Board of Trustees meeting highlighted Cal State East Bay as a transformative institution in higher education. The video showcased students from diverse backgrounds sharing their personal journeys and aspirations.

One student spoke about her passion for education and the pressure to not disappoint her parents, who sacrificed for her future. Her father emphasized the importance of education for a better life. Another student shared her parents' hard work in the apparel business and her desire to honor their sacrifices through education.

The video also emphasized the welcoming and inclusive environment at Cal State East Bay, where students felt a sense of belonging and support from faculty and staff. Professors were praised for recognizing and nurturing students' potential, creating a positive learning atmosphere.

Overall, the presentation underscored the impact of higher education at Cal State East Bay, highlighting the university's role in empowering students to positively influence their families and communities.

[Wednesday, January 31, 2024](#)

9:00 a.m.
Committee on Finance
[Agenda, Video](#)

The Committee on Finance, chaired by Trustee Lopez, began with the approval of a four-item consent agenda and proceeded to discuss three items. Steve Relyea, Executive Vice Chancellor and CFO, introduced the first item on auxiliary education, highlighting their essential role in supporting the CSU system. Heather Carin and Colin Donahue from CSU Northridge elaborated on the functions of auxiliary organizations and their governance. President Erica Beck emphasized the value of auxiliaries in supporting faculty and staff housing, philanthropic initiatives, and sustainable energy projects at CSU Northridge.

The discussion then shifted to lessons learned from past challenges faced by auxiliaries, with Colin Donahue and President Beck emphasizing the importance of daily interaction, strategic planning, and close coordination between auxiliaries and university leadership. Trustee McGrory raised concerns about the scrutiny of auxiliaries compared to general funds, calling for rigorous auditing and review processes.

Trustee Yee-Melichar inquired about financial transparency measures for auxiliary organizations, leading to an explanation of the oversight provided by university presidents and the availability of financial information on the CSU Financial Transparency website. Trustee Kimbell asked about the differences in the number and structure of auxiliaries across campuses, with Colin Donahue explaining the variability based on campus needs.

Trustee Steinhauser inquired about reserve policies for auxiliaries, with Colin Donahue stating that each campus establishes its own policy due to variations in size and scope. Trustee Brar sought clarification on the separation of funds generated by auxiliaries from CSU funds, with EVC Relyea explaining that auxiliaries operate independently but are closely governed by the university.

Trustee Faigin questioned the necessity of auxiliaries, with EVC Relyea and Colin Donahue explaining their role in providing flexibility and risk insulation for the university. Trustee Gilbert-Lurie discussed the correlation between auxiliaries and student fees and the implications of varying numbers of auxiliaries across campuses, emphasizing the need for effective advocacy and collaboration.

The meeting concluded with a discussion on the implications of the Governor's proposed budget for the 2024-2025 fiscal year on the CSU system, presented by Assistant Vice Chancellor Ryan Storm. The presentation highlighted CSU's budget priorities and cost-reduction strategies amidst financial challenges. Presidents Lynn Mahoney and Richard Yao shared their campuses' efforts to navigate these challenges, emphasizing the importance of strategic planning and collaboration.

Trustee Lopez underscored the seriousness of the situation and the need for clear understanding and strategic planning. Trustee McGrory highlighted the fiscal challenge and the importance of revitalizing advocacy efforts. Trustee Steinhauser emphasized accountability and support for leadership in making necessary reductions. Trustee Rodriguez stressed the importance of conveying the challenges to legislators, while Trustee Gilbert-Lurie highlighted the need for effective advocacy and collaboration.

Chancellor García thanked the Finance Committee for the discussion and emphasized the commitment to developing a strategic financial plan collaboratively. Trustee Aguilar-Cruz expressed gratitude for the involvement of student governments and emphasized the need for

clear communication and collaboration. Trustee Yee-Melichar highlighted the importance of unity and teamwork, while Trustee Brar expressed readiness to move forward with advocacy efforts.

Ben Chida (Chief Deputy Cabinet Secretary, Office of the Governor) outlined the challenges faced by the CSU system and emphasized the importance of maintaining moral authority and articulating

a vision for stewardship. Trustee Lopez highlighted the need for a student-centric approach, creativity, and proactive communication with students to address the challenges.

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Educational Policy

[Agenda](#), [Video](#)

The Committee on Educational Policy, chaired by Trustee Arambula, discussed student success and the implementation of the Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act of 2021 (AB 928). The meeting began with the approval of the November 2023 meeting minutes, followed by an update on research, scholarship, and creative activity in the CSU system presented by DVC Dilcie Perez and AVC Ganesh Raman. The presentation highlighted the CSU's commitment to hands-on learning experiences and the increase in research expenditures, with a focus on external funding sources and faculty achievements.

President Tom Jackson of Cal Poly Humboldt shared a collaboration project with the Wiyot Tribe in Northern California, emphasizing the restoration and preservation of ecological and cultural sustainability. DVC Perez concluded the presentation by emphasizing the importance of research activities in advancing student success and equity.

The committee then discussed proposed amendments to Title 5 regarding the implementation of AB 928, presented by DVC Nathan Evans, AVC April Grommo, and AVC Laura Massa, along with Academic Senate CSU Chair Beth Steffel. AB 928 aims to simplify the transfer pathway for California Community College students by creating a single lower-division general education pattern known as "CAL-GETC." The proposed changes will impact admissions requirements and the educational program for transfer students.

Trustees expressed their opinions on the proposed amendments, with some advocating for a unified general education pathway to simplify the system and ensure consistency in the educational experience for all students. Others emphasized the importance of general education courses in broadening students' perspectives and developing critical thinking skills. The discussion highlighted the complexity of the decision-making process and the need for further analysis and discussion before finalizing the decision. Chair Fong thanked the contributors for their input and emphasized the ongoing nature of the discussions.

11:30 a.m.

Joint Committee on Educational Policy and Finance

[Agenda](#), [Video](#)

The Joint Committee on Educational Policy and Finance convened to discuss the development of a financial aid policy within the California State University (CSU) system. Chaired by Trustee Arambula, the meeting began with the approval of previous minutes and proceeded to discuss the Chancellor's Strategic Workgroup on Financial Aid, co-chaired by DVC. Nathan Evans and Trustee Lopez.

The proposed financial aid policy aimed to ensure affordability and upward mobility for CSU students by maximizing federal, state, and institutional aid. Key principles included affordability

beyond tuition, equitable distribution of aid, and standardized methods for calculating and communicating financial aid awards. The policy also aimed to adapt to upcoming changes in financial aid regulations.

Trustee Lopez emphasized the shift from tuition-centric affordability to addressing the total cost of attendance, including housing and food insecurity. The proposed policy sought to maintain tuition support while expanding the use of institutional aid for non-tuition expenses. Consistency in calculating the cost of attendance across CSU campuses was also highlighted as a crucial aspect of the policy.

Trustees raised concerns about delays in receiving FAFSA data and its impact on student enrollment. DVC Evans acknowledged the complexity of the situation and outlined efforts to analyze the impact and explore potential solutions. Trustee McGrory highlighted the importance of linking recruitment efforts with financial aid, streamlining general education, and reducing time to degree. Trustee Kimbell praised the comprehensive nature of the framework and emphasized the need for proactive measures to support immigrant students and their families.

The committee unanimously approved the resolution endorsing the financial aid policy framework, aligning with the CSU's mission and goals. The meeting concluded with Chair Fong acknowledging the collaborative efforts to address financial aid challenges.

12:45 p.m.

[Joint Committee on Finance and Campus Planning, Buildings and Grounds](#)

[Agenda, Video](#)

The joint meeting of the Committee on Finance and Campus Planning, Buildings, and Grounds, chaired by Trustee McGrory, discussed the approval of the California State University Sacramento Placer Center Master Plan and Environmental Impact Report. President Wood presented the plan for the Placer Center, emphasizing its role in supporting academic and student success through integrated dual enrollment programs with Sierra College. The center aims to accommodate up to 12,000 full-time students and provide a welcoming space for diverse communities with comprehensive campus life facilities.

Superintendent President of Sierra College, Mr. Willie Duncan, highlighted the significance of the CSU campus in the community and the long-standing collaboration between Sierra College and Sacramento State. He emphasized the benefits of dual admission, concurrent enrollment, and shared support services in facilitating student success and reducing barriers to transfer. The Placer Center is seen as crucial in providing accessible higher education opportunities for the growing population in Placer County.

Trustee McGrory inquired about the time limits associated with the project's construction phases. While the initial three-year deadline for master plan approval has been met, further details on the timeline for subsequent construction phases were not available during the meeting but can be provided later. The motion to approve the item was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously after a roll call vote, with no further discussions or objections.

1:10 p.m.

[Committee on Campus Planning, Buildings and Grounds](#)

[Agenda, Video](#)

During the Committee on Campus Planning, Buildings, and Grounds meeting convened by Trustee

McGrory, several key items were discussed and approved. The meeting began with the approval of the minutes from the previous meeting without objection. The committee then moved on to review and approve the schematic design for the Engineering and Technology Commons project at California Polytechnic State University, Humboldt. EVC Relyea provided a brief overview of the project, highlighting its importance and receiving positive feedback from Trustee Yee-Melichar

regarding her recent visit to the campus. Following this, the committee approved the final environmental impact report and enrollment projection increase for California State University, Long Beach's master plan. EVC Relyea emphasized the responsible planning process and the benefits of the proposed master plan. The committee also approved the environmental impact report and master plan revision for the Wastewater Reclamation Facility at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, addressing water issues and campus infrastructure needs. All motions were passed unanimously, and Trustee McGrory concluded the meeting by thanking the attendees for their participation.

2:05 p.m.

[Committee on University and Faculty Personnel](#)

[Agenda, Video](#)

The Committee on University and Faculty Personnel, chaired by Trustee Adamson, commenced with the approval of minutes from the November 2023 meeting. The key agenda item was the executive compensation for the newly appointed Vice Chancellor for External Relations and Communication, Greg Saks. Chancellor García recommended an annual salary of \$344,373, a monthly auto allowance of \$1,000, and standard benefits for Saks, highlighting his leadership experience and achievements in university advancement.

Vice Chancellor Leora Freedman presented revisions to the retreat and employee reference policies, addressing concerns raised by stakeholders and the California State Auditor. The retreat policy updates aimed to provide clarity and consistency for administrators returning to faculty positions, while the employee reference policy revisions strengthened the CSU's stance on providing references in cases involving misconduct.

The committee also discussed civil rights initiatives, with VC Freedman providing updates on ongoing efforts to address civil rights challenges across CSU campuses. Discussions focused on the need for clear communication, training, and collaboration to implement systemwide standards effectively. The importance of fostering a culture of respect and accountability was emphasized, along with the significance of prevention strategies and awareness campaigns to reinforce desired behaviors.

Trustees expressed appreciation for the progress made in addressing civil rights issues and highlighted the need for collective responsibility in promoting a safe and respectful campus environment. The meeting concluded with Chair Fong acknowledging the committee's discussions and thanking Trustee Adamson for their contributions.

3:30 p.m.

[Plenary Session \(Day 2\)](#)

[Agenda, Video](#)

CSU Board of Trustees Chair Wenda Fong called the meeting of the Board of Trustees of the California State University to order. Following the roll call, Chair Fong introduced a video highlighting California State University San Bernardino (CSUSB). The video emphasizes CSUSB's commitment to education, community service, and innovation. It discusses their dedication to eliminating barriers for students, reducing tuition for low-income students, and providing

significant financial support. The video also highlights CSUSB's collaborative partnerships with local organizations, extensive community service, and expertise in various fields.

The video underscores CSUSB's impact on the Inland Empire and its designation as an R2 institution with high research activity. It mentions the university's commitment to ensuring every student

succeeds and its philanthropic foundation's support for students and faculty. The video showcases CSUSB's contributions to addressing regional challenges, producing successful alums in various sectors, and the dedication of its extraordinary faculty to high-impact research and scholarship.

After the video, Chair Fong expresses gratitude to the team at CSUSB for their inspiring work. The CSU Board of Trustees approved the items listed on the consent agenda, which passed unanimously. Chair Fong concluded the meeting by thanking everyone for participating and announced the next meeting in March 2024.

[CSUSB Video](#) **[Video](#)**

The video showcases California State University San Bernardino (CSUSB) as a dynamic and purpose-driven institution dedicated to education, community service, and innovation. It highlights CSUSB's commitment to making higher education accessible by reducing tuition for low-income students, allowing them to graduate into lucrative careers and achieve social and economic independence. The university's philanthropic foundation is recognized for providing significant financial aid to students and faculty, supporting academic success and innovative research.

CSUSB's involvement in community service is emphasized, with over 100,000 hours contributed annually to local organizations, translating to an estimated \$3 million worth of support. The university's collaboration with more than 500 Inland Empire nonprofits, schools, businesses, and other organizations is showcased, highlighting its active engagement with the community.

The video also highlights CSUSB's expertise in addressing regional challenges such as water management, transportation optimization, cybersecurity, and entrepreneurship. The success of CSUSB's alums in various sectors, including media, consulting, medicine, and engineering, is featured, demonstrating the institution's commitment to nurturing talent and providing students with the skills necessary for meaningful contributions in their chosen fields. Overall, the video presents CSUSB as an institution that imparts knowledge, actively engages with its community, collaborates to address critical challenges, and equips its graduates to excel in various industries.

[Brief Queries or Requests for Feedback](#)

Based on what I have shared with you above (links to the specific meeting materials and videos; brief summaries using ChatGPT with technical assistance provided by [SF State Academic Technology](#) and in concurrence with my personal meeting notes), I would like to reiterate some brief queries or requests for feedback. I invite and look forward to any comments and/or questions that you may wish to share with me on the following items. Please email me at dyee@calstate.edu; thank you for your kind consideration.

1, I have been appointed to four [Board of Trustees Standing Committees](#); these include Audit; Campus Planning, Buildings, Grounds; Educational Policy; and Finance.

Do you, your ASCSU standing committee and/or your campus senate have any concerns/items that you would like to bring to my attention at this time? I would especially like to hear about your campus feedback on the above Board meeting items related to these four standing committee assignments.

2, the ASCSU has weighed in on state legislative bills through prior resolutions including:

- [2023 LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY POSITIONS OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE OF THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY \(ASCSU\)](#)

Do you, your ASCSU standing committee and/or your campus senate have any feedback regarding the [CSU State Legislative Update – End of Session Legislative Summary](#)? Do you have specific legislative bills that are of concern and/or of interest to you?

3, The next regular meeting of the CSU Board of Trustees will be on March 24-27, 2024. The ASCSU is not meeting the week immediately before this Board meeting, and the Board agenda and materials are not yet available. Consequently, I would like to reiterate some items that you, your ASCSU standing committee and/or your campus senate may wish to consider:

Note: I suggest ASCSU committee(s) that may be interested in considering these items given [its committee charge and responsibilities](#).

Academic Affairs

GI 2025 and Student Success

Implementation of AB 928

Free [courses](#) and [certificates](#) – loss leader pricing strategy to promote programs/enhance enrollments?

Online Education – [UC takes another look at online education](#)

Academic Preparation and Educational Programs

GI 2025 and Student Success

Implementation of AB 928

[The misguided war on the SAT](#) - do standardized tests hurt diversity? Colleges have fled standardized tests, on the theory that they hurt diversity. That's not what the research shows ...

Faculty Affairs

[Academic integrity and AI writing policy](#) – Perhaps follow-up on ASCSU resolutions:

[AS-3360-19/AA \(Rev\) “Call For The Establishment of a Working Group on the Impact of Artificial Intelligence \(AI\) on Higher Education”](#)

[AS-3610-23/AA/FA \(Rev\) “RENEWING THE CALL FOR A WORKING GROUP ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE \(AI\) IN HIGHER EDUCATION”](#)

Annual Systemwide Report on Hate Incidents on Campus

Update on Civil Rights (Title IX and other Nondiscrimination) Programs and Services

[2024 Still Left Out Report](#) from the Campaign for College Opportunity

Fiscal and Governmental Affairs

GI 2025 and Student Success

Implementation of AB 928

Chancellor’s Strategic Workgroup on Financial Aid

State Legislative Budget Advocacy

[The New FAFSA Is Here – Or Is It?](#)

Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

GI 2025 and Student Success

Implementation of AB 928

[The misguided war on the SAT](#) - do standardized tests hurt diversity?

Annual Systemwide Report on Hate Incidents on Campus

Update on Civil Rights (Title IX and other Nondiscrimination) Programs and Services

[2024 Still Left Out Report](#) from the Campaign for College Opportunity

4, I want to get to know each of you through your standing committees, during meal breaks, through campus visits, during system events, and much more.



TRUSTEE CAMPUS VISITS - SPRING 2024

- ▶ Chico, April 30 (BETSY & JENNIFER)
- ▶ Dominguez Hills, March 11 (TOM & LAURA)
- ▶ East Bay, March 19 (PAUL & RYAN)
- ▶ Fresno, April 3 (SUSAN & JAMES)
- ▶ Maritime, April 25 (CHRISTINE)
- ▶ Sacramento, March 1 (TRACY)
- ▶ San Francisco, February 14 (ROB, JACKSON & SANTHI)
- ▶ San Jose, April 23 (MARK, SIMON & JULIA)
- ▶ San Luis Obispo, April 11 (STEVE & SAMUEL)

Please consider the **Listen and Learn schedule** (see my earlier emails with the attached excel sheet) and indicate one or more ways we might meet. I look forward to learning from you and your campus constituents. **Thank you** for your commitment to higher education and the CSU!

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