

Academic Senate CSU

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## **REFLECTIONS ON MY YEARS AS CSU ACADEMIC SENATE CHAIR- 2000-2003**

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What were the biggest Challenges?

- Working with Chancellor Reed was a challenge, especially in convincing him of the value of the CSU, Academic Senate. During my three years we did develop a good working relationship and, in fact, I was invited to work with him and the Trustees on Budget issues including testifying before Legislative Committees in Sacramento.
- A rift had occurred between the ASCSU and the campus Senate Chairs and this required considerable work to reestablish rapport and a working relationship.
- There was some contention over space allotted to the Senate and finally, after a threat to put the Senate Office in the Phone Booth (located near the present Senate Office,) we were able to have a Senate Chair office and small Conference room as well as the present ASCSU working space.
- Securing a significant voice both in Trustee meetings and at Master Plan Committee meetings.

What were the most significant accomplishments

- During my term as Chair, we authored some significant reports: (1) *The CSU at the Beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Meeting the Needs of the People of California-2001*- this was an important contribution to the Master Plan deliberations; (2) *The Faculty Flow Report-2003*-this report addressed issues of faculty retirement, renewals, hiring, etc.- this would be valuable again in these new budget times; (3) *Task Force Report on Department Chairs-2002-2003*-this included a survey and a white paper on Roles and Responsibilities of Department Chairs; (4) *Faculty Workload Study and Reports-2003*; (5) *Response to ACR 73 (Strom-Martin)-A Plan to Increase the Percentage of Tenured and Tenure-Track Faculty in the CSU- July 2002*; (6) *Service in the Retention, Tenure and Promotion Process- December 2002*; (6) *Intellectual Property, Fair Use and the Unbundling of Ownership Rights-2003*; and (7) *Rethinking Graduate Education in the CSU- 2003*.
- We established some excellent relationships with the UC and CCC Faculty Senates including attendance of their chairs at one of our Senate meetings and at an ASCSU Retreat. We also did joint lobbying with the UC.

- Established good working relationships with the Board of Trustees- The Chair of the Board of Trustees, Laurence Gould and I had an excellent working relationship and we visited campuses together and did some joint testifying before the legislature; I also had an excellent working relationship with Trustees Debra Farar and Martha Falgatter. Faculty Trustee Harold Goldwhite and I made a number of joint visits to campuses.
- During my tenure as Chair, I visited all the campuses and suggest that this is an excellent idea if possible for the present ASCSU Chair.
- I was proud to be on the ASCSU Team that established the Channel island campus.
- We had three excellent Retreats which included Trustees, Students, Alumni, and CSU Administration.
- I attended meetings of the CSU Alumni Council and also of the statewide Associated Students. These were valuable relationships.

What is the Most Important Priority for the ASCSU?

- Reestablish some face-to-face committee meetings.
- Reestablish if possible a retreat format that includes all the constituencies in the CSU as well as members of the UC and CCC senates.- Perhaps find outside funding by establishing as theme and inviting a Guest Speaker- e.g. when we had Ron Takaki, Historian and author of a number of books on immigration to California and the U.S. Perhaps an invitation to Kevin Starr, historian of California.
- If there are funds or ways- visits to campuses would be excellent- if these could be done in conjunction with the Faculty Trustee this would be great.

How judge the effectiveness of the ASCSU?

- Perhaps a survey of important constituencies- CSU Campus Senate Chairs, Student leaders, etc.
- In terms of opinions sought and listened to.