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ASCSU CHAIR'S REPORT
JANUARY PLENARY 2022
January 20-21, 2022

Good morning everyone! Greetings from the land of the Huichin, Ohlone! Happy New Year and Happy Belated MLK Day! I hope that everyone is doing well, taking good care, and staying healthy. It is an honor to offer this chair's report to the indefatigable senators of the of the Academic Senate CSU (ASCSU).

“Human progress is neither automatic nor inevitable. Even a superficial look at history reveals that no social advance rolls in on the wheels of inevitability. Every step towards the goal of justice requires sacrifice, suffering, and struggle; the tireless exertions and passionate concern of dedicated individuals. Without persistent effort, time itself becomes an ally of the insurgent and primitive forces of irrational emotionalism and social destruction. This is no time for apathy or complacency. This is a time for vigorous and positive action (King, Martin Luther, and Coretta Scott King. *The Words of Martin Luther King, Jr.* 1st ed. New York: Newmarket Press, 1983.Pp. 44).” – Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

When Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr made the aforementioned statement, his goal was to remind us all that the positive actions of dedicated individuals are the engines of social advancement.

In the nation's largest and most diverse institutions for higher education, this role is the responsibility of us all. While the passionate concern of dedicated individuals enables the belonging and common unity necessary for social advance, the challenge before us all is to ensure that apathy and complacency do not keep us from the tireless exertions in curriculum delivery, shared governance, and the scholarship of teaching and learning, necessary to reduce barriers to our own success. It is in this spirit of tireless exertions and success, that I commend our union, the California Faculty Association, and CSU administration, for having reached a tentative agreement on our contract. In the words of Secretary Deb Haaland, Laguna Pueblo citizen and the first Native American Secretary of the Department of the Interior, both were seemingly able to put forward “the very best

CSU Campuses

Bakersfield
Channel Islands
Chico
Dominguez Hills
East Bay

Fresno
Fullerton
Humboldt
Long Beach
Los Angeles
Maritime Academy

Monterey Bay
Northridge
Pomona
Sacramento
San Bernardino
San Diego

San Francisco
San José
San Luis Obispo
San Marcos
Sonoma
Stanislaus

we have to offer” during bargaining. In the spirit of enabling belonging through positive actions, I present my efforts on behalf of the ASCSU since November 2021. Two practices that continue to shape my approach to further promoting common unity and enabling belonging are effective communication and advocating for how faculty success enables student success. These efforts have included, but were not limited to the following:

MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

November

- Attended remote meetings of the Chancellor’s General Education Advisory Committee.
- Continued service on the CSU Naming Review Committee and consulted with Assistant Vice Chancellor Redfearn on the possibility of an ASCSU practice of providing feedback on systemwide naming projects.
- Continued remote conversations with Assistant Vice Chancellor Van Cleve and Associate Vice Chancellor Wrynn on AB 928.
- Continued remote contact and discussions with members of the CSU Council on Ethnic Studies, on practices for consultation with the ASCSU through the Academic Affairs Standing Committee.
- Continued remote consolation and meetings with Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senate (ICAS) Chairs on best practices for effective communication. The following are the tentative working discussion for the fall: AB 928, the new CSU Ethnic Studies Requirement’s impact on Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADTs), the new University of California (U.C.) Ethnic Studies Requirement, addressing barriers to effective transfer, and the need for greater student advising.
- Met remotely with the California Faculty Association (CFA) Board and present ASCSU Chair Liaison Report.
- Met remotely with new U.C. Senate Chair and ICAS Chair Robert Horowitz and California Community Colleges (CCC) Senate President Dolores Davison to discuss strategies for moving forward with opposition to AB 928.
- Met remotely with Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) President Studley.

December

- Continued service on the CSU Naming Review Committee and consulted with Assistant Vice Chancellor Redfearn on the new ASCSU practice of providing feedback on systemwide naming projects. The completed draft resolution codifying these practices is forthcoming this plenary.
- Continued remote contact and discussions with members of the CSU Council on Ethnic Studies, on practices for consultation with the ASCSU through the

Academic Affairs Standing Committee.

- Continued remote conversations with Assistant Vice Chancellor Van Cleve and Associate Vice Chancellor Wrynn on AB 928 and the forthcoming feedback portal. The following is the link to the completed ASCSU feedback portal: https://www.calstate.edu/csu-system/faculty-staff/academic-senate/Pages/ASCSU_AB928_Feedback.aspx. The following is the link to the California State University (CSU) webpage on AB 928: <https://www.calstate.edu/impact-of-the-csu/student-success/AB-928/Pages/default.aspx>.
- Continued remote meetings and consultation on best practices for effective communication with ICAS Chairs. The following are the tentative working discussions for Spring 2022: AB 928, ADT's, CHEGG concerns, the new U.C. Ethnic Studies Requirement, addressing barriers to effective transfer, and the need for greater student advising.
- Met remotely with Associate Vice Chancellor Wrynn and Assistant Vice Chancellor Van Cleve to provide an update on ICAS discussions and progress towards the common pathway required by AB 928.
- Met remotely with the CSU Alumni Council Board and presented ASCSU Chair Liaison Report.
- Met remotely with the CFA Board and presented ASCSU Chair Liaison Report.
- Met remotely with California State Student Associate (CSSA) Liaison to the ASCSU Moreno Ruelas to discuss strategies for effective communication and student concerns regarding COVID-19 Omicron Variant and returning to campus.
- Met remotely with the CSU Campus Senate Chairs and gave the ASCSU Chair report.
- Met remotely, along with Vice Chair Steffel, with CSU Maritime on campus repopulation and COVID concerns.
- Met remotely with the Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates (ICAS) and gave the ASCSU Chair Report.
- Met remotely with WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) President Studley to follow-up on her invitation to an ASCSU plenary (i.e., March or May) for discussion of how the ASCSU can serve as a resource on faculty perspectives on online learning success and rationale on faculty purview over instructional modality.
- Met with California Competes (<https://californiacompetes.org/>) to discuss faculty concerns with online education and how the ASCSU can serve as a resource on faculty perspectives.
- Met remotely with new U.C. Senate Chair and ICAS Chair Robert Horowitz and

CCC Senate President Dolores Davison to continue discussing strategies for moving forward with on AB 928.

- Met remotely and completed work on CSU Wang Awards.
- Reviewed the ASCSU Bylaws and Constitution for areas where gender neutral language is needed. Will propose the consideration of adding “they” to he and she.
- Will meet remotely to serve on the search committee for the Vice Chancellor of University Relations & Advancement.

January

- Attended remote meetings of the CSU Admissions Advisory Council.
- Met remotely with Moreno Ruelas, the California State Student Associate (CSSA) Liaison to the ASCSU, to discuss strategies for effective communication and student concerns regarding COVID-19 Omicron Variant and returning to campus.
- Met remotely with the CSU Alumni Council Board and presented ASCSU Chair Liaison Report.
- Met remotely with the CSU Campus Senate Chairs and gave the ASCSU Chair report.
- Met remotely with the Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates (ICAS) and gave the ASCSU Chair Report.
- Met remotely with U.C. Senate Chair and ICAS Chair Robert Horowitz and CCC Senate President Dolores Davison to continue discussing strategies for moving forward with on AB 928.
- Met remotely, along with Vice Chair Steffel, to serve on the CSU Honorary Doctoral Degree Subcommittee.
- Met remotely with Associate Vice Chancellor Wrynn and Assistant Vice Chancellor Van Cleve to provide an update on ICAS discussions and progress towards the common pathway required by AB 928.
- Met remotely with CSSA and present the ASCSU Chair Liaison Report.

Upcoming January Activities

- Virtual Board of Trustees meeting.
- Virtual Agenda Setting meeting with Chancellor White, Executive Vice Chancellor Alva, and Assistant Vice Chancellor Van Cleve.
- Revising the ASCSU COVID Survey.
- Planning virtual campus visits.

It is my sincere hope that you all find the aforementioned principles of enabling belonging and common unity in all efforts that I have engaged. There are areas of discussion that we should continue engaging, which are as follows:

- Continue examining the AEDI year-end report.
- Continue examining AB 928, the timeline received from ICAS, and feedback being received from campuses.
- Continue examining commendations for exiting and retiring senators.
- Continue exploring faculty concerns, and the similarities and differences between faculty and student concerns, regarding campus repopulation during the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- Continue exploring ways faculty can provide input into WSCUC perspectives on online education and modality choice.
- Continue exploring the impact of the shift to online teaching during the COVID-19 Pandemic and what implications this shift holds for what works and what doesn't work for faculty engaged in online education in the CSU.
- Continue exploring how the ASCSU might provide resources to the Chancellor's Office on matters of curriculum related to the four areas engaged during the ASCSU-CO Retreat on "Enabling Belonging: Reducing Barriers to CSU Student Engagement, Success, and Wellness During the COVID-19 Pandemic". The areas are as follows:
 - Building a Culture of Belonging, Mental Health, and Well-Being: Demarginalizing Race, Gender, Class, and Ability in the CSU During the Pandemic.
 - Academic Technology and Access to Enable Faculty and Student Belonging and Success
 - Funding the CSU: Legislative Advocacy that Enables Faculty and Student Belonging and Success
 - GI 2025: Enabling Belonging Through Expectations for Equitable Student Success
- Continue exploring how the ASCSU might continue collaborating with the CSSA and Chancellor's Office in virtual legislative advocacy early this Spring in order to improve our footprint in Sacramento.
- Encourage ASCSU standing committee members to apply for the additional ASCSU representative position on the IGETC Standards Subcommittee.
- Explore collaborative avenues for assessing the extent to which academic dishonesty occurs systemwide, with particular attention to CHEGG.
- Explore collaborative avenues for enhancing faculty diversity systemwide.
- Explore – in collaboration with AEDI – the type of committee they wish to become and will best serve the ASCSU in 2022-2023.
- Explore revisions necessary for the 2022-2023 ASCSU Calendar of Events.

KEY ISSUES

AB 928

AB 928: AB-928 Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act of 2021: Associate Degree for Transfer Intersegmental Implementation Committee.

During our January 11, 2022 meeting, the academic senate Chairs of the three segments, California State University (CSU), California Community Colleges (CCC), and University of California (U.C.) met. Central in our meeting was discussion of our approach to AB 928. It is important to note the following:

- It is important to understand the timeline for completion of the new transfer pathway. AB 928 requires that “On or before May 31, 2023, the Intersegmental Committee of the Academic Senates of the University of California, the California State University, and the California Community Colleges shall establish a singular lower division general education pathway that meets the academic requirements necessary for transfer admission to both the California State University and University of California (see https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=20210220AB928).”
- This law reduced CSU transfer from 39 units, and CSU Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) from 37 units, to 34 units. This is a total of eleven classes for students to take in the new transfer pathway.
- ICAS Chair Horowitz has proposed a completion timeline, which has been shared with the ASCSU Standing Committee Chairs and committee discussion was encouraged.
- To ensuring effective and transparent communication, on all aspects of AB 928 work being done, to all three segments, and ensuring robust feedback and input from faculty on all campuses, the ASCSU feedback portal and associate survey is live for soliciting and receiving feedback from CSU faculty on best practices in transfer, and what competencies we find to be most important for students transferring to the CSU.
- ICAS has agreed that Ethnic Studies will be part of the new pathway and the U.C. is awaiting faculty approval of their new requirement.
- The U.C. has made it clear that their faculty are unlikely to approve the additional of a new courses outside of the current IGETC pathway.
- What should our campus faculty colleagues know?
 - AB 928 required that the new singular pathway be no more than 34 units. This means that the new pathway will consist of 11 courses.
 - The ASCSU feedback portal is live.
 - ICAS has begun constructive conversations on the new pathway and will

increase the IGETC Standards Subcommittee by an additional members.

Accomplishments Document & ASCSU Budget

The ASCSU accomplishments document, which presents all resolutions and efforts of the ASCSU for the senate year, will be compiled for presentation during the May plenary. This document shows activities of the ASCSU and justifies and supports budget requests. Vice Chair Steffel will draft the document and the ASCSU Executive Committee will begin discussing the 2022-23 budget. It will be important to stress the summer stipends for the summer ASCSU Executive Committee.

Bylaws and Constitution

As per the recommendation, from AEDI, the Bylaws and Constitution reviewed to assess the need for gender neutral language. Little language was found that is in need of revision. The pronouns of “he, she, his, and hers” are used. The ASCSU Executive Committee will consider a revision to the ASCSU Bylaws that includes the addition of the pronoun “they” to enable gender equity.

Capital Tour

To ensure effective communication in upcoming legislative advocacy efforts, members of the ASCSU Extended Executive Committee had a meeting and received a tour of the state capital from Jai Sookprasert, Senior Advisor to the Chancellor. Central in this meeting were discussions of strategies for improving the ASCSU footprint in Sacramento and enabling more effective communication between the ASCSU and CO on legislative matters. Special thanks to Chancellor Castro and Jai Sookprasert, Senior Advisor to the Chancellor for their hospitality.

Commendations

As we approach the May plenary, it is important for campus delegations to begin commendations for outgoing senators. Please get the word out for commendation language and notify the ASCSU Executive Committee of forthcoming commendations by the April 2022 interim meeting.

CSU Ethnic Studies Requirement Implementation

Now that new CSU Ethnic Studies Requirement is being implemented, the ASCSU Executive Committee will continue to monitor implementation. The new Chair of AA continues to reach out to the CSU Council on Ethnic Studies to continue effective communication on campus concerns that arise during implementation and course approval processes.

First year Senators

First year senators are now officially on ASCSU Standing Committees and should have received 3 teaching unit of release this semester. Please contact Director Butler should

you encounter any problems. As a reminder, first year senators will continue to attend orientation meetings.

This concludes my report for our January 2022 plenary. It would be a pleasure to answer any questions that you all may have. It is an honor to serve you all and I continue to look forward to the great works that we accomplish together.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Keith Collins, PhD