

ASCSU
November 2013 Meeting
A Short Summary Report

Points of Information:

- CSU outstanding faculty website has been developed and launched, <http://blogs.calstate.edu/outstanding%2Dfaculty/>
- ASCSU Website: <http://www.calstate.edu/AcadSen/?source=homepage>. Includes committee information, approved agendas/minutes, reports, resolutions, current contact information.
- *Faculty-to-Faculty*, ASCSU Newsletter: Published approximately two weeks after each plenary. Includes chair's report, committee reports, invited articles on current events, and committee recommendations. Subscribe (delivered automatically via email) at <http://www.calstate.edu/AcadSen/Newsletter/>
- SB 1440 Intersegmental Curriculum Workgroup (ICW) appointments are needed. Additional TMCs, including biology and chemistry, are close to being approved. There will be transfer degrees (not TMCs) for Engineering and Nursing since these have significant unit issues that do not allow 60 unit guarantee. Campuses are also asked to look at existing TMCs and determine if there are related degrees that may be applicable, e.g., Anthropology TMC and Ethnic Studies on some campuses. CCs are asked to develop "area of emphasis", but issues remain around funding; CCs may not continue to support the ICW. In addition, 5-year reviews of approved TMCs will need to be conducted as programs are not stagnant; funding will be needed to do so. More detailed report on SB 1440/440 by Jim Postma is available on request.
- **CSU MOOC Task Force:** its May report delayed due to missing input from campus Provosts.
- **GE Task Force** proposes updating Golden 4 definitions in the various documents (Title V, EO 1065, GE Guiding Notes); Proposes to define the upper division requirement in GE, rather than just saying that "you shall have upper division GE".

SPEAKERS REPORTS:

Carol Geary Schneider, President of the Association of American Colleges and Universities: She noted that CSU and 8 other state systems are partners on LEAP, newest one in Texas, and AAC&U is grateful for the partnership with the CSU and CSU Faculty around LEAP and inclusive excellence. What will Liberal Education & America's Promise (LEAP 2.0) look like? GEMS and VALUE.

- GEMS (General Education Maps and Markers), is looking at how we can use the opportunity of technology to free up space for high impact practices. The idea is that no complex problem can be solved with a single discipline lens; general education, especially the upper division GE, can serve as the place where students learn multiple disciplinary perspectives to solving problems. She noted that Liberal Education is pitted against job preparation, but survey of employers show that 96% desire broad knowledge to deal with diversity, 96% desire ethical integrity and decision making, 96% desire ease of interacting with diverse customers, 92% desire potential for continuous learning and innovation in their future employees.
- VALUE (for example, VALUE rubrics). VALUE rubrics, developed with federal funding, can be used to look at students work.

Gerard Hanley, Senior Director, Academic Technology Services: He noted that the System saved \$4 million by getting a system-wide contract with Blackboard.

- Accessibility: CO is working with campuses Student with Affordable Learning Solutions Initiative, an accessible technology initiative to ensure that all students have access to information.

He stated that the faculty play a critical role in choosing the content; his job is to provide more choices in getting access to that content.

- OCE and its implementation: He noted that home campuses should take care of their own students first, then provide extra spaces to students from other campuses. He acknowledged poor communication about OCE—students don't know what it is and what it stands for. Communication, marketing, logistics are very important pieces.
- Cal State Online is going through a conversion process. It was originally about degree completion programs, but that has changed. His personal opinion is that Cal State Online may become a set of services that a campus may choose to employ.

Eric Forbes Assistant Vice Chancellor Student Academic Support, and Nathan Evans, Enrollment Management Services:

- Their projects include helping campuses manage student services, enrollment, financial aid, restructuring admission and application tools, and OCE.
- Early Start: Report on student participation in Early Start math and English will be forthcoming from the three campuses. LAO is in the process of preparing report that is due to be out January 1, 2014; They are interviewing campuses currently. AVPs will meet in November to discuss plans for Early Start next year. We expect to see Early Start grow next year.

CSU Trustee Douglas Faigin: He stated that all of us are here for students, and he believes that it is faculty who make all work. He stressed the importance of collegiality.

- Online/MOOCs: He noted that MOOCs are not the only thing BOT is talking about then they talk about online. There may be some good aspects about MOOCs, but it is not clear that we should try all of them. He believes that faculty should be the ones teaching online courses; he feels we don't need to go look for some rock-star person because we have great rock stars right here at CSU. Recognizes that online education is often much more work; breaking the back of faculty members through online is not his goal. He is well aware of the complexity of offering materials online and the support needed to develop online courses.

In regard to access in juxtaposition to online, he stated that not giving students access is not fair to students, faculty or the state. Some online courses, if done right, may benefit all of us. He is interested of getting people into the system who would otherwise be excluded. Acknowledges that online courses are not beneficial to all students and one size does not fit all. However, we still need to try it for those whom it may work.

He also feels that there is nothing wrong with public private collaboration if it benefits students and if it doesn't diminish educational excellence. At the same time he sees the dangers associated with commercializing education.

- **K-12 Education:** The importance of K-12 public education in California to the CSU faculty is probably best exemplified by the fact that the ASCSU has as one of its standing committees, APEP, charged with oversight of teacher education. Context of K-12 is complex in regard, language diversity, socio-economic diversity, technology, changes in the K-12 content standards (CCSS), and requests from multiple agencies. CSU needs support and resources from the Board of Trustees to a) address these challenges, b) provide leadership to K-12 as they transition to CCSS, c) and to provide ongoing training and support of Master Teachers who provide apprenticeship to CSUs' teacher candidates.

Chancellor Timothy White – He noted that there is a lot of important items on BOT agenda; Governor expected to attend on Tuesday. New Trustees training session will take place on Monday.

- When a senator suggested that CC proposal to offer bachelor degrees be used as an argument to obtain more funding, Chancellor replied that it is a delicate point to address. The last thing that CA needs is an A-level bachelor degree and then a lesser level BA degree. The other issue is the costs associated with offering bachelor degrees; problem will arise if CCCs' cost of delivery is less than it is for us.
- When asked about the status of Cal State Online, Chancellor noted that it is very fluent. One explanation for the fluent situation is the way it was created. It seems to come about from an economic point of view rather than an academic point of view. It didn't seem to stick when it came out, and it was very, very expensive. The umbrella concept of Cal State Online is a good one; using all online activities that are available. (see report under Smith for more detail on this)
- When asked about the Ethnic Studies program, Chancellor stated that he is absolutely committed to diversity, and ethnic studies discussion is an important one. He will meet with ethnic studies faculty representatives in the Fall. He has asked that a task-force, including ASCSU rep and ethnic studies faculty, be formed to study why there has been a decrease in student interest in ethnic programs. He wants to make decisions that respect faculty positions and opinions.
- When asked about Technology and access, the Chancellor noted that technology can enhance the learning environment, but can also be used to help with bottlenecks. In fact, technology can help students get through the bottlenecks, but that doesn't increase access as those students are already in the system. Technology is integrated in our learning environment; it's an ecosystem that connects technology, faculty, students, student success, and access to courses.

Ephraim Smith, Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Academic Officer: Smith indicated that CSU is working through a contract amendment with Pearson Online, per their request; there were not enough students that went through Cal State online; their losses were in the 6 figures. Pearson did not object to the CO's request to make the platform optional; Pearson is sitting on the contract decision.

What is the future of Cal State Online? Online programs and courses will stay campus program and courses, they will not become CO programs and courses. Cal State Online will be a storefront where students can find programs or courses. Smith further noted that the issue is the separation between state-support and self-support so that there is no negative feedback. Some services are very expensive. For example use of coaching and inside-track.

When asked about lack of communication and dissemination of information re: Cal State Online, Smith noted that CSU Online was supposed to be created as a 501.C3 corporation, but that never happened. Thus, the Board is merely an Advisory Board.

When asked about issue of upper division GE courses that are offered through Cal State Online with unclear promises to students, Smith noted that we have an articulation problem. Further discussion is needed to work out articulation problems. Courses are taken within a program, but that is not certain.

When asked about continued funds for Research and Sponsored Programs, Smith indicated that we don't know if funds will be released.

When asked about EAP needing to be advertised, Smith noted that it will be advertised; letter is going out.

Andy Merrifield, CFA: Both CFA and CO published their sunshine proposals on October 25; the good news is that both sides raised common issues, e.g., compensation, benefits, appointment and review, and non-discrimination. Next step is to reiterate the proposal at the BOT meeting next week.

- This is equity week, looking at all equities and inequities on all campuses.
- All presidents were asked to look at Article 31.14 addressing inversion and compression. Met with CALPERS to discuss the implication of the Affordable Care Act. They verified that they do not determine eligibility. One political issue is the initiative pushed to alter the pension policies for public employees in California. It is not yet qualified for the ballot. It had the potential to change the pension formula, creating problems with recruitment and retention of high quality faculty.
- The Little Hoover Commission put out a report on what to do with public higher education.
- CFA has proposal on FERP: Not worded out yet, but the idea is to provide FERP to long-term lecturers.

Agatha Gucyski, CSSA Liaison: Two plenaries took place--approved the policy agenda, system wide programs and resources, growth and quality of CSU, advocate at the federal level, regional lobby training sessions, increasing collaboration with community colleges, AB 233 discussion with Asm. Wieckowski, Student Bill of Rights. Greenovation fund for CSUs, online education white paper is in the works. May propose an "Outstanding Student Page" like the one created for faculty.

William Blischke, CSU ERFA Liaison: At their meeting with all of the northern California campus presidents, they talked about structure and procedures used to award ERFA statement, as well as support provided to retired faculty (summary report of this meeting will be posted on erfa.org.)

- Resolution in opposition to release of CALPERS information other than names and amount of pension.
- ERFA advises members not to sign petitions to place pension reform on the ballot.
- ERFA Executive committee is considering whether to request an emeritus faculty membership on the BOT.
- ERFA strongly encourages the reinstatement of the Academic Conference, previously called the Academic Retreat.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED in SECOND READING: Copies of this and other resolutions can be found at <http://www.calstate.edu/AcadSen/Records/Resolutions/>.

1. **Legislative Advocacy Principles of the Academic Senate of the California State University (AS-3146-13/FGA) and Legislative Advocacy Guidelines for the Academic Senate of the California State University (AS-3148-13/FGA):** Provide a framework for the Academic Senate's activities, laying out principles, guidelines, and priorities for advocacy.
2. **Support for the Extension of the Statway Curriculum Pilot Program as an Alternative for Establishing Proficiency in Quantitative Reasoning (AS-3147-13/AA/APEP):** Extends the pilot project for two additional years. **Legislative Advocacy Guidelines for the Academic Senate of the California State University** is self-explanatory
3. **California State University Board of Trustee Proposed 2014-15 Support Budget (AS-3149-13/FGA):** Endorses the CSU Proposed 2014-15 Support Budget requesting a general fund augmentation of \$237.5 mil, which exceeds the \$142.2 in the governor's multiyear plan. The Board requests \$13 mil for campuses to hire more than 500 full-time tenure track faculty system-wide and \$37 mil for other efforts to support student success and completion.

4. **Commendations:** The following resolutions were approved by acclamation.
 - **In Memory of CSU Trustee Peter G. Mehas – AS-3155-13/EX**
 - **Upon Retirement of EVC/CFO Benjamin F. Quillian – AS-3151-13/EX**
 - **Upon Retirement of CSU Assistant Vice Chancellor Robert Turnage – AS-3150-13/FGA**
5. **Concerns & Recommendations Regarding Cal State Online Reorganization (AS-3152-13/AA/FA):** Acknowledges that re-envisioned Cal State Online is consistent with recommendations previously made by the Academic Senate, expresses serious concerns about shared governance, and calls for a new governing body as well as the development of planning documents.
6. **Ensuring the Continuous Presence of a Faculty Trustee on the California State University Board of Trustees (AS-3153-13/FGA/FA):** Thanks the Chancellor and Board for their recent efforts to secure the Faculty Trustee appointment and encourages the Academic Senate leadership to work with the Chancellor’s Office and Board to remedy this problem through the legislative process this year.
7. **Changes to the Bylaws of the Academic Senate Makes editorial corrections (AS-3145-13/EX).**

FIRST READING ITEMS (CAMPUS CONSULTATION IN PROGRESS): The following items were introduced at the October 31-November 1, 2013 meeting, and will be acted upon at the January 23-24, 2014 meeting:

1. **Recommendations Related to Nursing Preparation (AS-3154-13/AA):** Encourages clarification of Executive Order 1084 System-Wide Nursing Policy with respect to general education requirements. Encourages campuses to support “pre-nursing” students who are not admitted to nursing programs. Contact Committee Chair Chris Miller (email: millercm@saclink.csus.edu).
2. **Reinstatement of Faculty Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities Fund (AS-3156-13/FA):** Urges the Board and Chancellor to reinstate the Faculty Research, Scholarly, and Creative Activity program as specified in Education Code. Contact Committee Chair Manzar Foroohar (email: mforooha@calpoly.edu).
3. **Recommendation on the Eligibility of Lecturers for Emeritus Status (AS-3157-13/FA):** Encourages campuses include criteria in their policies for long-term lecturers to earn emeritus status. Contact Committee Chair Manzar Foroohar (email: mforooha@calpoly.edu).
4. **Recommendation to Amend Title 5 to Establish Appropriate Unit Limits for Engineering Degrees (AS-3158-13/AA):** Requests that unit limits for engineering degrees be established at 132 semester units (198 quarter units) as distinguished from other Bachelor of Science degrees. Contact Committee Chair Chris Miller (email: millercm@saclink.csus.edu).

Respectfully submitted by the Senior Senator, Chong