

Report from ASCSU March 14-15, 2019

John Tarjan

1. Announcement: Nominations for the Faculty Innovation Awards are being accepted. 23 awardees across the CSU will be honored and presented with cash awards, as will one department.
2. **Chair Nelson** referred us to her written report.
http://www.calstate.edu/AcadSen/Records/Chairs_Reports/
3. **Excerpts from Other Reports**
 - **Academic Affairs** discussed the following topics.
 - Impact of AI on Higher Education
 - Doctorate in Occupational Therapy
 - Border Issues and Separation of Families
 - Student Success White Paper 2.0
 - Faculty Intellectual Property
 - Self-Support Programs Outside of CA
 - Math Council and English Council Concerns about Early Start Programs
 - **Academic Preparation and Education Programs** discussed the following topics.
 - WestEd Study on the Implementation of EO 1110
 - 4th Year of Mathematics—Potential Change to a-g Requirements
 - Early Start Implementation
 - Commendation of Director Joan Bissell (teacher education, CO)
 - **Faculty Affairs** discussed the following topics.
 - Impaction at CSULA and Impact on Students
 - White Supremacy and Racist Incidents on CSU Campuses
 - Department Chair Training (finally scheduling a session in northern California)
 - FOIA, CA Public Records Requests
 - Appropriateness of Faculty Intellectual Property
 - Unconscious Bias Training
 - Use of CSU Faculty for Internal Consulting
 - GE Task Force Report
 - Hiring Preferences for Non-Contingent Positions
 - **Fiscal and Governmental Affairs** discussed the following topics.
 - Tracking Legislation of Potential Interest to ASCSU
 - Occupational Therapy Doctorate
 - Higher Education Facilities Bond Act
 - Open Access Policy for the CSU
 - **Faculty Trustee Nominations**
 - ASCSU voted to send the following names forward for the Governor's consideration for appointment to the Faculty Trustee position for the next two years.
 - Romey Sabalius (San José) (incumbent)
 - John Tarjan (Bakersfield)
 - **GE Advisory Committee** discussed the following issues.
 - Credit for Prior Learning (especially military courses)

- Report from the GE Task Force
- Campus Upper-Division Assessment Survey Results
- Weber Ethnic Studies Bill
- and AAC this week. Both committees provided useful feedback.
- **ITL Board** discussed the following issues \.
 - Event Programming for 2018-19
 - Faculty Support for EO 1110 Implementation
 - Meetings
 - Webinars
 - CSU Symposium on Teaching & Learning (held last week)
 - Teaching First Generation College Students
 - ITL Faculty Fellows Program

4. We had a discussion of the **GE Task Force Report** led by the Co-Chair of the Task Force. It can be considered “a draft set of ideas about general education presented to the ASCSU to serve as a launching point for thoughtful discussion, debate and revision” and is meant to now go through a “giant peer review by the faculty.” The task force was established and charged through ASCSU resolution and included trustees, students, senators, campus faculty, ASCCC, UCAS, and CO administration representatives. The task force hoped to develop recommendations for increasing coherence and intentionality. The group studied best practices in GE within the CSU and beyond. The conceptual framework including essential skills, disciplinary perspectives, cross-cutting values, and integrative experiences was explained. There was a hope that campus autonomy in crafting curriculum would be increased as a result of the report. There were many efforts to be inclusive. Many individuals and groups involved in GE were invited to meet with the task force and task force members.

5. **Faculty Trustee Sabalius** reported concern about the potential reduction of Cal Grant eligibility from 6 to 4 years. Outside groups are urging CA elected officials to consider limiting CSU growth and increase CCC growth to save the state money during the first two years of students’ education. He is especially excited about the CSU Super Sundays at predominantly African American congregations. The Board is unlikely to take up the GE Task Force Report anytime soon. The Board struggles with issues of access and impaction. Serving students above our capacity not only reduces resources to support quality, it also undermines future requests for adequate funding.

http://www.calstate.edu/AcadSen/Records/Faculty_Trustee/index.shtml

4. We passed the following resolutions upon second reading. Copies of these and other resolutions can be found at <http://www.calstate.edu/AcadSen/Records/Resolutions/>.
- a. **Request for Action on Infringement of Faculty Intellectual Property** responds to the actions of organizations such as Course Hero which publish class notes, etc. without permission of the faculty who create them. It requests that the Chancellor’s Office staff help to educate students about related law, provide faculty with means to stop the appropriation of their intellectual property, block web sites that violate the law, and pursue legal action when appropriate.
 - b. **Border Issues and Separation of Families: Impact on Students, Faculty and Staff in the CSU** calls upon the CSU to continue to support immigrant students, faculty and staff and increase programs to support these communities.

5. We passed the following resolutions after waiving a second reading. Normally first reading items are distributed to campuses for feedback. However, if the ASCSU deems an item to be urgent (e.g. the need to provide input before a policy or piece of legislation is being considered) it may waive the second reading. Copies of these and other resolutions can be found at <http://www.calstate.edu/AcadSen/Records/Resolutions/>.
- a. **2019 Legislative Advocacy Positions of the Academic Senate of the California State University (ASCSU)** is self-explanatory and allows the Fiscal & Governmental Affairs and Executive Committees to represent formal positions as legislation moves forward in this legislative session. Positions of “support”, “oppose” or “no position” were discussed on bills of potential interest and impact for the ASCSU. Significant discussion was had about what to do when the body supports the intent of proposed legislation but opposes legislative intrusion into issues appropriately left to campuses and faculty.
 - b. **Support for AB 829 (Bloom) and the Occupational Therapy Doctorate (OTD) in the CSU** supports granting authority for the CSU to offer this degree. It was felt that strong support early in the legislative process was important, hence the second reading waiver. This resolution amplifies the support position in the legislative advocacy resolution (see above). This bill is currently moving forward rapidly.
 - c. **Flexibility in the Implementation of Early Start** calls for flexibility to meet the different needs of students attending the 22 campuses offering Early Start, including delaying some proposed curricular changes until they have been proven effective. It was deemed urgent because campuses are already well into the process of preparing for next summer’s Early Start programs.
 - d. **Support for a Higher Education Facilities Bond Act** amplifies the support position in the legislative advocacy resolution (see above). The current budgetary practice of paying for CSU infrastructure using yearly budget allocations does not allow for the needs of the CSU to adequately be addressed. The general obligation bond being contemplated would address critical infrastructure needs and is a very high priority for the CSU.
6. We introduced the following resolutions that will be considered for adoption at our May plenary. Copies of these resolutions should be available shortly for campus review.
- a. **The Impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on Higher Education** endorses a white paper on the impact of AI on employment, education, etc. and calls for the creation of a task force to study the implications of the themes from this white paper and to develop possible recommendations to address them. (This item was referred back to committee during the second reading.)
 - b. **Academic Senate of the CSU Calendar of 2019-2020 Meetings** is self-explanatory.
 - c. **Request That the ASCSU Schedule an Unconscious Bias Training in September 2019** requests completion of the training that began this year.
 - d. **Endorsement of the Student Success White Paper 2.0 Process** encourages consultation and data collection during the completion of this white paper.
 - e. **Preference for Consulting Assignments for CSU Faculty, Librarians, Coaches, and Counselors** encourages the publication of consulting opportunities internally and the utilization of internal CSU expertise in these assignments.
 - f. **Receipt of the General Education Task Force Report** expresses gratitude to the members of the task force and directs the Executive Committee to refer campus

feedback to two standing committees for review. Concerns expressed by various discipline councils and campuses were acknowledged during the introduction and discussion of this resolution.

- g. **Preference for Hiring Incumbent Contingent Faculty, Librarians, Coaches, and Counselors to Non-Contingent Positions** requests that a database of these contingent faculty be developed and that hiring committees for non-contingent positions be urged to consult it.
- h. **Special Rule of Order Governing Debate on Substantive Motions: 3 For/3 Against** formalizes this rule which has been followed by ASCSU without apparent documentation of its adoption.
- i. **Resolution in Support of an Open Access Policy for the California State University** urges a policy which increases student access to scholarly articles written by CSU scholars while maintaining copyright protections.
- j. **Recommending a Four-Year Mathematics/Quantitative Reasoning Requirement for Admission to the California State University: Towards a Responsible and Responsive Policy** urges that steps be taken to ensure that any policies developed to reform the a-g standards with respect to this requirement mitigate any adverse impact on underserved students.
- k. **Resolution Rejecting the February 2019 General Education Task Force Report** asks that no action be taken on the report and that it be referred to a new subcommittee, the GE Program Review Committee, for completion.

7. Jennifer Eagan (CFA President) reported the following.

- CFA will testify at the Board next week regarding public safety and other issues.
- Follow-up training on unconscious bias is being piloted on a couple of campuses. (ASCSU went through training this year. See resolution above about follow-on training.)
- Charles Toombs (SDSU) will be the next President of CFA.
- Local lobbying efforts of representatives from districts containing or near to CSU campuses is underway.
 - Legislators are being urged to allocate enrollment growth funds based on headcount rather than FTES.
 - Increased allocations to support new T/TT hires are being requested.
- It is difficult to work with LAO estimates that seem to overstate costs of potential policies, including those which support the mission of the CSU.
- CFA is sponsoring 5 bills dealing with the following issues. (See <https://www.calfac.org/politics>)
 - Executive Compensation & Campus Budget Transparency
 - Confidentiality in Union Activities (in grievances, etc.)
 - Use of Lethal Force by Police Officers
 - Ethnic Studies Requirement for CSU Graduates
 - Mental Health Counselor Ratios

8. Loren Blanchard, EVC of Academic and Student Affairs began by giving an overview of the Board Committee on Educational Policy agenda. A presentation will be made on the implementation of EO 1110. The Board will also be reviewing the 23 campus academic master plans. 26 new degree programs are being recommended for approval.

An accreditation update (WSCUC and program-based accreditations) will be given. There will also be a presentation to the Board on campus academic program approval processes. The second part of a presentation begun at the prior Board meeting on student financial aid will be delivered. We will highlight partnerships with groups such as churches (outreach), the Summer Algebra Institute, and ethnic cultural groups, as well as featuring the work of the CSU Center for Community Engagement. The CSU recently engaged in advocacy in Sacramento. Unfortunately, our request for funding for 5% enrollment growth was only met with a proposal for funding 2% growth. We still hope to have the 5% target funded. We are in the process of selecting two new Assistant Vice Chancellors to replace retired individuals. We continue our efforts to provide accessible resources to all of our students who need them. Four of our campuses are currently being audited with regard to accessibility. The three main areas of focus include website accessibility, accessible instructional materials and accessible technology. Campuses found lacking in any of these areas are subject to significant fines. In response to questions: Our outreach efforts to underrepresented groups are now increasingly focusing on both enrolling these students and supporting them through to graduation and beyond. Access and completion are both priorities. State education leaders are meeting to address statewide capacity issues. As an example of capacity issues: the CSU is tasked by law with accepting the top 33% of CA HS graduates. Under our current eligibility criteria, 41% of CA HS graduates are eligible for admissions. It is possible that something like the CA Postsecondary Education Commission (CPEC), which was discontinued, may be established to coordinate public higher education initiatives across the state. Inclusivity needs to be integrated in all we do to address things like the unfortunate racially-tinged incidents that are happening on some of our campuses.

- 9. Chancellor Tim White** began by recapping his incredibly busy schedule. Four presidential searches are underway. We are working hard with representatives in Sacramento and Washington D.C. on issues affecting our students and our system. We are hopeful that a facilities bond (\$4b for the CSU) will pass. There is not quite as much support for funding strong enrollment growth in Sacramento as there is to modernize our infrastructure. There are CSU alumni across the globe. A recent alumni reception in Tokyo was so well attended that 100 alumni could not be admitted (there are over 3000 CSU alumni in the area). We should probably increase our alumni outreach internationally. In response to questions: Dr. White detailed the process by which a general obligation bond referendum would make it to a ballot. We probably need partners to support our efforts since we cannot use state funds to advocate. There will not be an executive order dealing with the suggestions from the GE Task Force until such time as the ASCSU has had a chance to evaluate it, receive feedback, and provide recommendations to the Chancellor. At one point, the Chancellor stood, raised his hand, and indicated that he endorsed the "Tenets of Shared Governance" document adopted by ASCSU at its last plenary. The details and the negotiations relative to several higher education bond bills were outlined. We are not in favor of establishing a 24th campus since resources currently going to the other 23 campuses would have to be redirected to support it given current fiscal conditions. A bond would likely receive more support in the March primary election than in the November election. There is widespread support for supporting new and updated infrastructure in the CSU. Even though high school enrollments are plateauing, the number of students eligible for CSU admissions continues to grow strongly. We need to constantly work to maintain inclusivity. We appreciate the

hard work of the faculty and staff and what they do for our students. Some of the incidents happening on campuses are disheartening and disturbing. We need to address them consciously. All of us need to recognize both our conscious and unconscious biases and work to eliminate them.

10. James Minor, Assistant Vice Chancellor/Senior Strategist for Academic Success and Inclusive Excellence gave an update on programs implementing EO 1110, He began with reviewing our Graduation Initiative 2025 goals which include reducing equity gaps to zero. The 2017 rates and 2025 goals by student groups are as follows:

- a. Freshman 4-year rate 23% to 40% in 2025
- b. Freshman 6-year rate 59% to 70%
- c. Transfer 2-year rate 35% to 45%
- d. Transfer 4-year rate 75% to 85%

Student preparation coming out of high school is improving but we have a long way to go. We are considering amending the a-g eligibility requirements to include a 4th year of math/quantitative reasoning. HS grades are a better predictor of student success than are standardized test scores. Preliminary results from the restructuring the structure of remediation courses is promising. More students are taking baccalaureate courses and are earning GE credit in the first year in math and English courses and increasing their progress to graduation. It is believed that these changes will also help to close equity gaps.

11. Kaila Cooper (CSSA Liaison) reported on the CHESS conference last year (student training and practice in legislative advocacy). A major theme was increasing eligibility for financial aid (Fix Financial Aid Initiative). They are supporting the facilities bonds acts, student loan forgiveness, accountability measures, Cal Fresh work study, etc.
<https://calstatestudents.org/state-advocacy/>

12. James Swartz (ERFSA Liaison). The biannual State Council meeting is coming up soon at CSUDH. Barry Pasternack is the only candidate to become the next president. There will be consideration of a vote of no confidence in the PERS board. (The ERFSA web site contains many useful resources. <http://csuerfa.org/>)

13. Denise Bevly, Director of Student Wellness and Basic Needs Initiative Made a presentation on the CSU Basic Needs Initiative. The CSU is trying to adequately address our students' food and housing insecurity and mental health issues. These efforts are integral to facilitating student success. Areas of focus include physical health, housing, mental well-being, sense of belonging, financial support, and food. Students across our system have unmet needs. One of our challenges is to help students to ask for assistance in meeting their basic needs. Results of a student survey (n=27,805) and student focus groups were shared. 42% of students reported food insecurity within the last 30 days. 11% reported being homeless during the past 12 months. Other sobering statistics and a summary of programs to address students' needs were shared.
<https://www2.calstate.edu/impact-of-the-csu/student-success/basic-needs-initiative>