

ASCSU report to Cal Poly Pomona Academic Senate

10 April 2024

prepared by Gwen Urey, ASCSU Senator

The ASCSU met 13-15 March, in hybrid format. Senator Urey serves on the body's Executive Committee, and CPP Senate Chair Rita Kumar attended the Plenary sessions as a substitute for ASCSU Senator Maya Stovall.

A. Summary

The body heard from guests, including the Chancellor García; VC of HR Leora Freedman (Title IX I & status of CSU Civil Rights Office restructuring), DEVCs Nathan Evans and Dilcie Perez (AB 927, AB 928 and GI-25); Trustees Wenda Fong, Julia Lopez, Leslie Gilbert-Lurie, Diana Aguilar-Cruz, Jack McGrory, and faculty trustee Yee-Melichar; CFA President Charles Toombs (bargaining); and Genesis Galilea Pompa (CSSA Vice President of System-wide Affairs). The ASCSU engaged in a great deal of discussion with these guests and about its own business.

Vice Chancellor of HR Leora Freedman introduced Hayley Schwartzkopf, who will serve as Associate Vice Chancellor for Civil Rights Programming and Services. AVC Schwartzkopf outlined the work ahead in fixing the system's broken civil rights protections, covering both Title VI and Title IX protected rights. She has a track record on both sides of civil rights protections, having worked as both a litigator and a defender of public agencies engaged. She engaged the body in a robust discussion of various related issues.

The trustees engaged the body in a discussion of the proposed GE changes. ASCSU members communicated the lack of data to support the radical changes on the March BOT agenda. Trustees asked for information that the Senate has accumulated, which was shared, and can be reviewed in the document, [Problems with proposed changes to CSU GE Breadth](#) (compiled by the ASCSU Ex Com). In addition, Trustee Lopez spent more than two hours with the Executive Committee on Wednesday, 3/13, talking about the proposed GE changes.

As is now known, none of these Trustees voted against the changes to Title 5 that will make the CalGETC GE Pattern the pattern for all CSU students starting in fall 2025. At the BOT meeting on Tuesday, 26 March, Faculty Trustee Yee-Melichar abstained from the vote, and all other members of the Committee on Educational Policy voted for the change. Prior to the vote, the BOT heard public comment from a number of individuals, including all members of the Executive Committee¹ except for Chair Beth Steffel, who was allowed to speak for more than 60 seconds when she gave her report. With the exception of the speaker from the Fund for College Opportunity, who praised the change, all public

¹ Public comment began with the ExCom speakers, just near the end of the 3rd minute in this video:

https://youtu.be/80Jq88bKBYo?si=_Huh6Em5FBPt4Ci

comment speakers on the issue testified to the likely harm the change will cause. In her report, Chair Steffel summarized the points found in the “Problem” document cited above.²

During the discussion, Faculty Trustee Yee-Melinchar proposed an amendment to limit the proposed changes to transfer students only. The amendment failed. During the discussion, EVC Nathan Evans was given an opportunity to elaborate on why the Chancellor’s Office wants these changes. When she asked to speak, ASCSU Chair Steffel was told that she was out of order and denied the opportunity to address/counter EVC Evan’s points.

The body passed ten resolutions, and heard thirteen first-reading resolutions, which are described below, with links to each. If you have feedback on the first reading resolutions, please share it with [ASCSU Senator Urey](#), [ASCSU Senator Faye Wachs](#) and [CPP Senate Chair Rita Kumar](#).

B. The ASCSU passed ten resolutions.

1. [AS-3660-24/JEDI/FA](#)

Amending the Constitution of the Academic Senate of the California State University (ASCSU) to Add Three Designated Temporary Faculty Positions

This resolution articulates changes to the ASCSU constitution that adds three designated temporary faculty positions.

2. [AS-3661-24/JEDI/FA](#)

Change in Bylaws of the Academic Senate of the California State University (ASCSU) to Accommodate the Addition of Three Designated Temporary Faculty Positions

This resolution articulates changes to the ASCSU bylaws that add three designated temporary faculty positions.

3. [AS-3665-24/AA/FA](#)

Faculty Choice in Selection of Course Materials

The resolution states ASCSU’s opposition to three items regarding faculty selection of course materials: 1) any program at campus or state-wide levels that mandates that faculty use only digital versions of course materials, 2) flat-fee models that do not include opt-out clauses for students and faculty, and 3) flat-fee models that do not address cost differentials between different courses, departments, disciplines, or colleges.

4. [AS-3668-24/APEP](#)

Funding For Transfer Curriculum Evaluation Work

The resolution addresses compensation for faculty work pertaining to intersegmental curriculum matters. The implementation of Cal-GETC (in response to AB 928) and the common course numbering project (in response to AB 1111) will require even more faculty participation in

² Chair Steffel’s report begins at 20:14 in this video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nxRajcLTrho&t=1213s>

intersegmental curriculum review activities. Even at current levels, it is difficult to find sufficient CSU faculty representation for this work. The resolution expresses the ASCSU's belief that a major contributing factor to this is the minimal level (sometimes none) of compensation available for this work.

5. [AS-3670-24/Exec](#)

Apportionment of Academic Senate CSU (ASCSU) Seats

The ASCSU annually reapportions seven seats to seven CSUs based on campus Full Time Equivalent Faculty data. In this cycle, San Francisco State will lose one seat and Cal Poly San Luis Obispo will gain one seat.

6. [AS-3674-24/FGA](#)

2024 Legislative Advocacy Positions of the Academic Senate of the California State University (ASCSU) WAIVER

The resolution adopts provisional positions on legislation to guide California legislative advocacy during the 2024 Legislative calendar.

7. [AS-3675-24/FGA](#)

2024 Federal Legislative Advocacy Positions of the Academic Senate of the California State University (ASCSU) WAIVER

The resolution adopts provisional positions on legislation to guide Federal legislative advocacy during the current Legislative calendar.

8. [AS-3676-24/AA](#)

On Cal-GETC Alignment and Shared Governance

The resolution states ASCSU's objection to and deep concern with Chancellor Garcia's decision to recommend that CSU GE Breadth be aligned with Cal-GETC, and reiterates ASCSU's request for the Board of Trustees to adopt Cal-GETC for transfer students and not change CSU GE Breadth without faculty support and engagement.

9. [AS-3689-24/FGA](#)

Resolution on Estimating the Financial Implications of Adopting CalGETC for CSU GE WAIVER

The resolution reaffirms the fiduciary role of the Board of Trustees and requests that the Board of Trustees delay action on the question of adopting Cal-GETC for CSU GE Breadth until a robust estimate of the cost of implementation can be provided in a report with input from faculty, staff and students.

10. [AS-3692-24/Exec](#)

Appreciation to California State Student Association for Support of Student Success (unanimous approval) WAIVER

The resolution conveys deep appreciation for the passionate opposition to changing CSU General Education (GE) Breadth which California State Student Association (CSSA) Governing Board

members expressed at their 2024 February and March plenaries.

C. The ASCSU received thirteen resolutions in first reading, and seeks feedback from campuses:

1. [AS-3677-24/Exec](#)

Academic Senate of the CSU 2024-2025 Meeting Schedule

The resolution provides the schedule of meetings for 2024-2025 for the Academic Senate of the California State University.

2. [AS-3679-24/AA](#)

Support for CSU Institute For Teaching and Learning Artificial (AI) Professional Development

The resolution applauds Chancellor's Office efforts on providing professional development for teaching and learning tools regarding artificial intelligence and urges funding for future professional development courses in AI to enhance ethical AI tool usage in the college classroom by faculty and students.

3. [AS-3680-24/APEP](#)

Review of Standardized Test Use for Undergraduate Admissions

This resolution does NOT call for a return to the use of the SAT/ACT. In AS-3532-22/APEP, the ASCSU endorsed the recommendation of the Admissions Advisory Council to discontinue the use of the SAT and ACT in first-year admissions decisions. That resolution specifically called on the CO to engage in shared governance processes to assess the consequences of the discontinuation of the use of these exams. Recent articles have highlighted possible inequities that have been created by the elimination of these exams. This resolution calls for the AAC to review the elimination of standardized test use for first-time undergraduate admission.

4. [AS-3681-24/JEDI](#)

Promoting Racial Equity in CSU International Program Participation

The resolution commends the leadership of CSU International Affairs and International Programs (CSUIP) during COVID-19, highlights the underrepresentation of Black and Native American students in study abroad experiences, and requests funding from the Chancellor's Office to support recruitment and advising of these underserved students, along with identifying resources for scholarships and grants to mitigate financial barriers to participation in CSUIP.

5. [AS-3682-24/JEDI](#)

Protecting Workload Equity and Shared Governance Considering the Systemwide Plan to Target and Reallocate Budget of Low Degree Programs

The resolution highlights the ASCSU's concerns about the systemwide targeting of low-degree programs, course cancellations and resulting budget limitations for campuses and negative impacts on student retention and time to graduation. Concerns about the suspension of temporary faculty and increase workload of permanent faculty violates the Collective Bargaining Agreement are also articulated. The resolution request that the Chancellor's Office follow shared governance principles and work with campus senates, not just administrators to identify ways each cause can meet enrollment targets, increase graduation numbers, and manage budget cuts.

6. [AS-3683-24/JEDI](#)

ASCSU Support for Reparations Task Force Report and Plan for African Americans

The resolution, in alignment with the CSU Black Student Excellence Initiative, commends the California Reparations Report from the Task Force to Study and Develop Reparations Proposals for African Americans.

7. [AS-3684-24/JEDI](#)

ASCSU Commends B.A. Program at Pelican Bay State Prison

The resolution commends the partnership between Cal Poly Humboldt, the College of the Redwoods, and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation for developing and implementing the B.A. Program at Pelican Bay State Prison, the first program of its kind to be taught in person at a high-security facility in the State of California and encourages other CSU Campuses to develop similar programs.

8. [AS-3685-24/JEDI](#)

Affirming Commitment to Accessibility in All Course- and Instruction-Related Software

The resolution reaffirms the ASCSU's commitment to accessibility in all course- and instruction-related software because of this growing and under-served problem in higher education. The ASCSU urge the Chancellor's Office and local campus decision-makers to consult with campus disability services to implement accessibility requirements for the acquisition of software necessary to complete course assignments in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and other regulations.

9. [AS-3686-24/JEDI](#)

ASCSU Justice Equity Diversity and Inclusion Strategic Plan

The resolution demonstrates the ASCSU's commitment to develop and implement a Strategic Plan for Justice Equity and Divinity for the ASCSU, the encouragement of all CSU senates to develop strategic

plans, and the development and maintenance of a repository of these plans by the ASCSU. The ASCSU is the representative body for the CSU system and therefore it serves as a model for all campus senates. The importance of developing and implementing a strategic diversity plan will improve the chances that true change will occur in the diversity of senate leadership across the CSU.

10. [AS-3687-24/JEDI](#)

ASCSU JEDI Committee Bylaw Revisions

The ASCSU JEDI Committee has been in existence for almost two years. These bylaw changes clarify the committee's role and responsibilities in the ASCSU, including the development and implementation of a regularly assessed Strategic Justice Equity and Inclusion Plan that focuses on the recruitment and retention of diverse senators, support for campus senates strategic diversity plans, the development of a leadership pipeline, and addressing justice, equity, diversity and inclusion issues impacting society and CSU campuses.

11. [AS-3688-24/FGA/JEDI](#)

Resolutions for Equity Data Regarding Student Enrollment, Cost of Instruction, and CSU Equity in Budget Allocation and Reallocation Plans

The resolution asks the Chancellor's Office to develop an equity-based calculation for the per student cost of instruction, an assessment of the impacts on equity, retention, and achievement gaps of any reallocation of enrollment targets and budgets, and exploration of equity-driven funding models to address CSU systemic funding inequities that disadvantage already underserved and non-traditional students.

12. [AS-3690-24/FA/JEDI](#)

Fortifying and Supporting CSU Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) through Employment by Advancing Their Inclusion and Equity in the CSU

The resolution asks the CSU to support its current employees who have DACA status in a variety of ways, including helping such employees find a pathway to permanent employment and providing training to Human Resources employees and others about how to employ and assist people with DACA status.

13. [AS-3691-24/FA](#)

Continuing Support of Faculty Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activities (RSCA), and Request for Increased RSCA Funding

The resolution expresses continuing support for faculty Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities (RSCA). The resolution asks that, given the demonstrated benefit of RSCA to CSU and the system, annual RSCA funding be adjusted for inflation to \$3.3 million from \$2.5 million. The annual RSCA funding level in the CSU budget has been \$2.5 million since 2015-2016 and \$3.3 million represents that level of funding adjusted to account for inflation.