

**Academic Senate of the California State University (ASCSU): Report to Cal Poly, Pomona Senate
Prepared by Teresa Lloro (tllorobidart@cpp.edu) and Faye Wachs (flwachs@cpp.edu)
March 16, 2026**

Key Issues Discussed March 5-6 Plenary

CSU AI Commons (presented by Leslie Kennedy, AVP, Academic Technology Services)

- During discussion, senators raised questions about renewal of the OpenAI contract, AI detection tools, data privacy and storage, environmental and ethical considerations, and emerging AI-related degree programs.
- Contract renewal discussions are underway
- AI detection tools such as Turnitin's AI features are available systemwide (with campus discretion)
- Invitation for campuses to share updates on new AI-related programs and resources to ensure inclusion in the AI Commons.

CalFresh Updates (presented by Stephanie Bianco, Director of the Center for Healthy Communities and Associate Professor, Department of Nutrition & Food Science, Chico State)

- CalFresh benefits, averaging over \$200 per month per student, significantly reduce food insecurity, improve retention and academic performance, and lessen students' need to work excessive hours
- Tracking faculty and staff time spent referring students to CalFresh is important as allowable "state share" and helps sustain reimbursement and maintain campus services
- Faculty encouraged to refer students to services

Heightened Legislative Focus on Intersegmental Competition (Presented by Junius Gonzales, Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs Nathan Evans, Associate Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs and Chief of Staff)

- Significantly heightened legislative focus on intersegmental competition¹
- Currently developing the Strategic Enrollment Management (SEM) framework, organized around who the CSU serves, how it delivers, and what it offers
- Priority areas include academic preparation, affordability and financial aid, improved systemwide data and communications, flexible academic pathways, and more responsive adult/working-learner models
- Currently exploring additional bachelor's degree types (e.g., Bachelor of Education, Bachelor of Professional Studies, Bachelor of Applied Studies), strengthening support for multi-campus/consortial programs, standardizing budget templates and workforce data sources, and shortening timelines for program development and implementation
- Community colleges are pursuing teacher credential authority, increasing urgency for CSU options such as a Bachelor of Education

Alumni Engagement (presented by) Adrian Harrell, Alumni Council President Jodi Braverman, Executive Director, CSU Alumni Council Lori Brockett, Associate Vice President for Alumni Engagement and University Events (CSUSM) CSU Alumni Council Liaison Report

- Alumni Council has adopted a new Alumni Council Strategic Plan for 2025–2027
- The updated mission and vision emphasize uniting alumni as advocates and partners to advance student and alumni success and positioning the Council as a trusted systemwide partner
- Five values: advocacy, lifelong connection, collaboration, opportunity and access, and stewardship.

¹ If any senators are interested in obtaining a list of the pending bills, please let us know. There is a total of 39.

- Three strategic goals aligned with CSU Forward and the Student Success Framework: (1) elevate alumni success stories, strengthen advocacy (including CSU Voices), and reinforce public investment in the CSU; (2) deepen lifelong connections by expanding alumni engagement with students, particularly classroom engagement, experiential learning, mentorship, alignment with career services, and lifelong learning opportunities (extended education, micro-credentials, upskilling), and share faculty-alumni collaboration best practices across campuses; and (3) strengthen internal governance, leadership development, and cross-campus coordination within the Alumni Council, which includes campus alumni directors and alumni volunteers.

Chancellor’s Priorities

CSU Voices Advocacy Platform for System

Changes to degree types:

- Previewed board consideration of Bachelor of Education, Bachelor of Professional Studies, and Bachelor of Applied Studies
- Framed as career-aligned, time-to-degree-reducing options intended to augment, not replace, existing degrees
- For affordability and access, she cited expansion of direct admissions work and financial-aid counseling support (including training for Riverside County counselors and success coaches), and described exploration of Title V changes to allow CSU credits earned at any campus to count as residence credit toward degrees systemwide to improve credit mobility and shorten time to degree
- Operational efficiencies to cut costs

Employer of choice:

- New total compensation philosophy and systemwide faculty and staff salary studies expected to conclude by June
- If the governor funds the CSU as proposed, the plan is to provide compensation increases and use the studies to correct deficiencies

Concerns about shared governance:

- Faculty raised concerns about shared governance and communication regarding proposed Title V and new degree-type items presented as information items to the Board
- The Chancellor and academic affairs leadership stated outreach began in early January and acknowledged communication lapses, with a commitment to improve ongoing briefings
- CSU rhetoric around “workforce needs” should reflect adaptability, critical thinking, and transferable skills, with the Chancellor emphasizing these qualities as central outcomes

Concerns about standardization:

Additional comments highlighted concerns about standardization (including common course numbering and credit mobility) potentially reducing program distinctiveness and quality, and suggested reframing the community college baccalaureate debate around quality assurance expectations (faculty engagement, support services, and academic infrastructure).

First Reading Resolutions

Please let us know if you would like to know more about these resolutions or if you would like for us to share comments/feedback at the next ASCSU Plenary in May.

AS-3781-25/APEP: Approval Process for Transfer Model Curricula (TMCs)

Proposes to update the process by which the ICC reviews and approves Transfer Model Curricula (TMCs) to ensure that voting members from both systems (ASCCC and ASCSU) can vote.

AS-3783-25/APEP: Opposition to AB-2236 (Berman) [Postsecondary Education: Articulation Agreements (2026)]

Opposes legislation proposed in AB-2236 in its current form due to lack of financial support, the erosion of curricular autonomy, the insufficient specificity in articulation standards.

Makes recommendations that: faculty primacy is preserved over curriculum and articulation; that descriptors for equivalency determinations remain discipline-specific; that segmental governance structures are respected, and that there are provisions for transparent alignment between C-ID, Common Course numbering, and intersegmental agreements before statutory requirements are imposed.

AS-3784-25/FA/AA: Support for California State University's International Programs by Funding Faculty Positions

Calls for CSU administration to expand and institutionalize opportunities for CSU faculty

AS-3785-25/APEP: In Support of the Bachelor of Education Degree in the California State University (CSU)

Calls for the support of the development of baccalaureate of Education (BEd) degrees; that campuses draw on the disciplinary expertise of CSU faculty that enable PK-3 and multiple subject matter preparation programs; and that support and consultation be provided.

AS-3786-25/FA: ASCSU Support for Math Council's Resolution on the Use of Mathjobs.org in the Hiring of Academic Faculty in the Areas of Mathematics and Statistics

That the Academic Senate of the California State University (ASCSU) assert the importance of ensuring that every job advertisement is readily accessible to a broad and diverse pool of applicants, and recognize the centrality of Mathjobs.org as the primary clearinghouse for academic jobs requiring a doctorate in the fields of Mathematics and Statistics; and be it further

AS-3787-25/AA Discussion Paper CSU 2040

Please provide comments related to the shared document, referencing line items and page numbers, when appropriate.

AS-3789-25/JEDI: Support for Replacing "Academic Probation" with "Academic Notice" across the CSU

Some campuses have already made these changes, but this resolution calls on all campuses to discontinue the use of "probation."