

ASCSU Chair's Report
April 18, 2013
Diana Guerin

Announcements

- On Friday April 19th, the ASCSU will have virtual meetings. The final ASCSU plenary of the year is May 16-17, with standing committees meeting on May 15.
- CSU is seeking Director of California Pre-Doctoral Program. Contact is Chris Mallon (cmallon@calstate.edu) at the CO.
- The [Chancellor's response](#) to ASCSU March resolutions has been received and will be posted shortly.
- The ASCSU celebrated its 50th anniversary at the March plenary.
- The amendment to the ASCSU Constitution to include academic freedom has been approved by the campuses and forwarded to the Board of Trustees for the May meeting.
- The ASCSU has nominated to Senate Steinberg three CSU faculty to serve on the California Open Education Resource Council per SB 1052 passed last year. The matching funds have yet to be secured, so the faculty have not been appointed.
- Chancellor White has announced an RFP for campuses to submit projects to reduce bottlenecks (\$10 mil) and improve student success (\$7.2 mil). Deadlines are short (April 18 for pre-RFPs and May 31 for RFPs). I forwarded this memo to the ASCSU and campus senate chairs via email when I received it on April 9.
- The ASCSU requested that faculty receiving campus-wide awards be recognized on the CSU system website, and the Chancellor's Office is developing a Faculty Spotlight in response. Shortly, a request will be sent by the ASCSU to campus senate chairs and provosts/VPAAs to provide information by June 15th about faculty who have honored by campus wide awards. The website will launch in mid-fall, and it will be updated on a quarterly basis.

Update on Legislation

Several members of the ASCSU visited the Capitol last week to advocate on behalf of the CSU. The ASCSU is also providing input on several bills. ASCSU Executive

Committee wrote in opposition of SB 520 (Steinberg) unless amended, and several campus academic senates did as well. [SB 520](#) was amended on 4/17/13. In brief, SB 520 now mandates that CSU partner with private online course technology providers to make available access to 50 impacted lower division courses by fall 2014. I have asked FGA for its advice.

As you know, there is great interest in online instruction, particularly leveraging it to expand access to higher education. Much attention has been given to the SJSU public-private partnerships and the experiments ongoing.

Other pending bills have also been amended, and Executive Committee will receive advice from FGA and Extended Executive Committee at our virtual interim tomorrow. Based on this input, Executive Committee may act on behalf of the ASCSU to adopt formal positions to communicate at scheduled hearings next week. The bills for we have requested position recommendations from FGA include AB 386 (Levine), AB 387 (Levine), AB 895 (Rendon), SB 440 (Padilla), and SB 547 (Block). You can access these bills at the California Legislature website, www.senate.ca.gov or www.assembly.ca.gov.

We are coordinating our response with CSU stakeholders and the other segment academic senate leadership. I appreciate greatly the work of FGA and Chair Soni and ASCSU Leg Specialist Tom Krabacher in these efforts.

CSU Faculty Trustee Nominees

The ASCSU nominees for the Faculty Trustee on the CSU Board of Trustees have been communicated to Governor Brown. They are Bernadette Cheyne (Humboldt) and Steven Stepanek (Northridge). The Governor appoints the Faculty Trustee, who serves for two years.

Proposed Performance Metrics

There is interest at the state level in performance metrics tied to the higher education budget, and the Governor's representative recently sought my response to a set of proposed metrics (I believe the Department of Finance is the source). The proposed metrics included seven indicators involving raising the percentage of various types of students graduating in four years (freshman, transfer, for example) and the number of degree completions (again of various students groups, including, freshman, transfers, low income). CSU funding would be dependent upon providing baseline data next year and then showing improvements in these metrics beginning in 2015-16.

The increases in CSU funding proposed by the Governor (5%, 5%, 4%, 4%) over the next years are contingent upon the CSU holding tuition constant. The increases would be tied to the performance metrics.

Briefly, I explained how these metrics could conflict with the mission of the CSU, the percentage of our students who go part time, and the dilemma these metrics would create for faculty having to choose between holding academic standards or helping the system get the funding it so desperately needs. I also mentioned that it does not encourage campuses to expand degrees that might take longer to complete, such as those in STEM areas. Feedback on these metrics is being sought from a number of stakeholders.

Cal State Online Advisory Board - 4/17/13

The website (www.calstateonline.com) is continuing to be developed and updated. Cal State Online operates on eight-week sessions, and there are six terms per year. Currently in operation is a bachelor degree in Business at Fullerton, which launched in January. An Applied Studies bachelor degree at Dominguez Hills launches in May. Several programs are in the pipeline (Launch report is attached FYI).

Ruth Black reported strong interest in several of the current and upcoming degree programs. (CSU Fullerton is reaching capacity for fall, for example). Most of the interest is from Californians (90%).

Fee comparison charts for graduate and undergraduate programs were distributed. Our programs are competitively priced, with neither the lowest nor the highest fees.

The Cal State Online Launch Financial Model developed by the Chancellor's Office projected 188 enrollments (about 19 FTE) for the program's first year. By my estimate, we seem to be halfway there with one more term in May to go. Next year, the projection is for 2000 enrollments (200 FTE).

Several of the bills mentioned in Update on Legislation were discussed.

Something that is now being discussed is incorporating Cal State Online stateside. A few stateside online programs are interested in joining Cal State Online. Early Start and lab courses were also mentioned. There is not yet a business model on how the stateside programs would be funded by the state. Packages could be tailored to meet each program's needs (marketing, etc.). Director Ruth Black reported that another staff member is being hired. She also provided an expenditure report for the year. From 7/1/12 to 3/31/13, the grand total of \$377,289 was spent.

Other Reports Sent Electronically to ASCSU

- Board of Trustees meeting (Nelson) 3/20/13
- Chair's Report to Board of Trustees (Guerin) 3/20/13
- Faculty Trustee Report (Cheyne) 3/28/13
- California State Student Association (Guerin) 4/4/13
- Alumni Council (Guerin) 4/4/13
- Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates (Guerin) 4/4/13

Upcoming

I will attend the following meetings in the near future:

- CSU-Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association on 4/20 at Pomona
- Shared governance conference panel, CSUDH on 4/22 in Torrance
- Legislative hearings on 4/23 and 4/24 at the Capitol
- CFA Board (liaison report) on 4/26 and memorial for John Travis (4/27) at SFO
- Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates Lobby Day on 4/29 at the Capitol
- Early Start Program on 5/2 at LAX
- California State Student Association on 5/4 at San Diego State University