

ASCSU Chair's Report
November Plenary 2016 to January Plenary 2017
Christine M. Miller

It has been my privilege to represent the Academic Senate of the California State University between our last plenary meeting and the present one. I offer the following listing of my activities followed by summary and commentary on key issues that arose during that time.

Meetings and Activities

November, post-plenary

- Graduation Initiative 2025 Advisory Committee conference call
- Wang Awards Selection Committee (virtual)
- California State Student Association Executive Director in Long Beach
- November Board of Trustees meeting in Long Beach
- Joint ASCSU/CFA Intellectual Property faculty group (virtual)
- San Jose State University Campus Senate and Executive Committee
- Association of Governing Boards survey interview (virtual)
- Academic Council in San Francisco

December

- Council of Campus Chairs meeting in Long Beach
- ASCSU interim virtual meeting
- Interim “agenda setting” meeting with Chancellor and cabinet in Long Beach
- San Diego State University Campus Senate and Executive Committee
- Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates meeting in Sacramento
- Intersegmental Coordinating Committee meeting in Sacramento
- Nichole Murillo, CSU Governmental Relations Office in Sacramento

January, pre-plenary

- Tenure Density Task Force (virtual)
- Kevin Powers, Senate Higher Education Committee Staff in Sacramento
- Christian Osmena, Department of Finance in Sacramento

- Alumni Council (virtual)
- CSU Governmental Relations Office Welcome Reception in Sacramento

Upcoming

- Systemwide Budget Advisory Committee in Long Beach
- California State Student Association in San Luis Obispo
- Honorary Degree Recommending Committee in Long Beach
- Board of Trustees meeting in Long Beach
- Intersegmental Senate Chairs (virtual)
- Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates in Sacramento
- Academic Conference in San Diego
- San Luis Obispo Senate and Executive Committee
- Interim “agenda setting” meeting with Chancellor White and cabinet
- CSU Fullerton Senate meeting
- Tenure Density Task Force meeting in Long Beach
- Academic Council in Long Beach
- Campus Senate Chair’s Council meeting in Long Beech
- ASCSU virtual interim

Key Issues

General Education

My last report referenced Coded Memorandum ASA-2016-19: *General Education Requirements Survey*, which resulted in each campus sending to the Chancellor’s Office an accounting of the requirements of its GE program. In the meantime, the Senate passed AS-3271-16/AA (Rev), “Establishment of an Academic Senate CSI (ASCSU) Task Force to Study General Education.” The response by the Chancellor’s Office was positive. At this January meeting, the Executive Committee will be considering a document that articulates how that resolution will be operationalized, and a call for membership will follow. Ideally, the Task Force will begin its work this Spring and complete the charge next year.

Task Forces

Quantitative Reasoning. As I mentioned in my last report, follow-up on the recommendations of the Quantitative Reasoning Task Force (QRTF) continues. The Executive Committee as well as the Chairs (or Vice Chairs) of the Academic Affairs, Academic Preparation and Education Policies, and Chancellor’s General Education Advisory Committee will meet with AVCs Mallon and Van Cleve on January 25, 2017 to continue discussions, and more information will be provided in committee meetings and at the plenary.

Tenure Density. The first meeting of the Task Force on Tenure Density took place on September 19, 2016. A second “virtual” meeting took place January 12, 2017, and the final in-person meeting is slated for February 22, 2017. The Task Force is charged with making its recommendations to the Chancellor by March 1, 2017.

Academic Freedom. Three faculty representatives from ASCSU and three from CFA met to discuss the draft academic freedom policy developed by the Chancellor's Office. That meeting produced agreement on an approach resulting in a resolution from the Faculty Affairs committee that comes back to the Senate this week for a second reading. Senators will also have the opportunity to query both EVC Blanchard and EVC Virgee at the same about academic freedom issues on Thursday morning.

Intellectual Property. The intellectual P]roperty draft has not progressed as far: it was forwarded to the presidents for their review at the beginning of December, and I was told at the time that it would be transmitted to the Senate for our review shortly thereafter . . . about 6 weeks ago. I've made repeated inquiries, and consistently the response is that it will be forwarded soon.

Academic Conference

Registration has closed, and the participant list is exciting: many members of the Board of Trustees, students, presidents, vice presidents, Chancellor's Office personnel and senators have made the commitment to gather in San Diego to strategize with nationally-recognized speakers on ways to close the achievement gap. The conference promises to be enlightening event.

Legislative Advocacy

Given the rather dramatic changes in legislative leadership and staff support, it's critical that ASCSU engage in effective and sustained legislative advocacy. Such a goal is consistent with November's unanimous ASCSU agreement to promote the Board of Trustees' support budget. Beyond that though, I note with pride that the Fiscal and Governmental Affairs committee has prioritized in-district advocacy in order to forge connections with legislators and their staffs, and I similarly am committed to developing productive relationships with policy makers. Together we all can advance the dreams of hundreds of thousands of students in the State of California who rely on us to help them succeed. What an honor.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine M. Miller