The California State University
OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

Academic Senate CSU
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www.calstate.edu/acadsen

ASCSU Chair's Report
February 13, 2013
Diana Guerin

Faculty to Faculty Newsletter

The March issue of the ASCSU newsletter is now available at
http://www.calstate.edu/AcadSen/Newsletter/. Included in the newsletter is information about
the January plenary, pending resolutions, and a call for faculty to serve on the California Open
Educational Resources Council established by SB 1052. Please announce the newsletter to
your campus and encourage your colleagues to subscribe.

ASCSU 50th Anniversary

The 50th anniversary of ASCSU will be celebrated on March 14th from noon to 5:00 pm at the
Chancellor's Office, with a reception following. The "Save the Date" announcement is posted at
http://www.calstate.edu/acadsen/ . An opening plenary will celebrate the history of the ASCSU;
in discussion sessions and in the closing plenary, we will envision how to strengthen
contributions of shared governance moving forward. Please contact Tracy Butler with questions
about the event at tbutler@calstate.edu.

Passing of John Travis, CFA Liaison to ASCSU

Please join us in remembering John Travis (Humboldt), long-time faculty leader of CFA and
liaison to ASCSU, who lost his fight with cancer on February 6th. Upon hearing of his passing,
senators shared their tributes to John as a passionate supporter of faculty, a true believer in
public higher education, someone who treasured students, and as a leader who was gentle,
thoughtful, and strong. He is missed already.

To share memories and/or condolences with his family, address cards to his wife, Beth Amen,
at 2872 Freshwater Road, Eureka, CA 95503.

ACSCU Priorities

The standing committees of the ASCSU discussed priorities to share with incoming Chancellor
White, and Executive Committee summarized the comments. The resulting document is
attached to this report, and it has been used to frame our initial conversations with Chancellor
White.

CSU Campuses	Fresno	Monterey Bay	San Francisco
Bakersfield	Fullerton	Northridge	San José
Channel Islands	Humboldt	Pomona	San Luis Obispo
Chico	Long Beach	Sacramento	San Marcos
Dominguez Hills	Los Angeles	San Bernardino	Sonoma
East Bay	Maritime Academy	San Diego	Stanislaus

Joint Task Force on MOOCs
A task force of senators, provosts, and students has been established to examine MOOCs and their potential impact(s) on the CSU. The task force is co-chaired by Provost Bill Covino (Fresno) and ASCSU Vice Chair Steven Filling (Stanislaus). Other task force members from the ASCSU include Kate Fawver (Dominguez Hills), Karen Davis (Monterey Bay), Kimberly King (Los Angeles), Otto Benavides (Fresno), and Darlene Yee-Melichar (San Francisco).

Faculty Trustee Nominating Process
One faculty member serves on the CSU Board of Trustees for a two-year term. The process to select the 2013-2015 faculty trustee was initiated last fall. ASCSU has received four nominations for faculty trustee from the campuses: Bernadette Cheyne (Humboldt), Herman DeBose (Northridge), James Postma (Chico), and Steven Stepanek (Northridge). I thank the candidates and campuses for their participation in this important process. The candidates will be interviewed at the March plenary, and the ASCSU will select at least two and no more than four nominees to forward to the Governor. Governor Brown selects the faculty trustee from among those forwarded by the ASCSU.

ASCSU Constitutional Amendment
We are monitoring the campus votes required to amend our Constitution to include advancing academic freedom and freedom of inquiry as a purpose of the ASCSU, as described in AS-3076-12/FA. To date, 17 campuses have voted, with 16 voting to ratify the amendment. Per Article VII, Section 2 of the ASCSU Constitution, "Ratification requires a majority of the total vote cast in a systemwide referendum and a majority of the votes cast at each of the majority of the campuses."

Upcoming
- I will attend the California State Student Association meeting on Feb. 16th.
- On Feb. 21st, I will meet with the Faculty Development Council.
- On Feb. 22nd, I am scheduled to give comments at the public hearing of the WASC Commission meeting on AS-3109-13/AA in support of the inclusion of upper division general education in WASC accreditation guidelines.
- Vice Chair Steven Filling and I will meet with Jason MacCannell from the Office of the Governor, on Feb. 22nd, to discuss issues facing CSU and online education.
- UC Academic Senate Chair Bob Powell and I will provide testimony regarding our respective systems at the Little Hoover Commission Hearing on Higher Education at Long Beach City College on Feb. 26th. The panels address student aid, MOOCs, and online education.

Advisory Committee on Smarter Balanced Assessment System
The ASCSU appreciates the service of the following faculty on the Advisory Committee on Smarter Balanced Assessment System: Roberta Ching (Sacramento), Sandra Chong (Northridge), Magnhild Lien (Northridge), Glen McClish (San Diego), James Postma (Chico), and Mark Van Selst (San José). This committee with provide advice to the Chancellor on the transition of the Early Assessment Program to the newly adopted Smarter Balanced Assessment System as adopted by the State of California.

Recently Initiated Consultation

ASCSU standing committees are being consulted on amendments to minimum admission requirements for transfer students pertaining to the "Golden Four" basic skills courses (minimum grade of "C" required in each), among other changes.

Three Executive Orders (255, 794, and 1047) pertaining to Extended Education are being merged into one new policy.

Committee chairs will report on committee recommendations in upcoming issues of the *Faculty to Faculty* newsletter.

January Board of Trustees (BOT) Meeting

My written report to the Board included the following topics: resolutions approved by the ASCSU in January 2013 (see *Faculty to Faculty* newsletter); background on systemwide outstanding professor award; Joint task force on MOOCs; ASCSU 50th anniversary event; and comments on the BOT agenda item on baccalaureate unit limits.

Regarding the baccalaureate unit limit item instituting a 120-unit limit for most CSU bachelor's degrees: Expected shared governance processes were circumvented when this item appeared on the September BOT agenda without discussion with ASCSU. At its November plenary, the ASCSU expressed serious concerns about this proposed Title 5 change, which we viewed as removing authority from the faculty, who are the most appropriate body to ensure curricular integrity (AS-3092-12/AA Faculty Consultation on Baccalaureate Unit Limits).

In AS-3092-12/AA, the ASCSU encouraged campus-based timelines jointly determined by campus administration and senates so as to allow programs to engage in normal and well-established curricular review processes, reaffirmed its commitment to distinctive universities in the CSU, and affirmed that some programs must remain "high unit majors" to protect academic quality and student success. Campuses are best positioned to make decisions regarding high unit degree programs for their students, looking at the entire degree program—including depth and breadth—simultaneously.

According to data presented at the BOT meeting, there were 247 degree programs exceeding 120/180 semester/quarter units in 2012, and 504 in 2013 (Slide 10 of 37). My analysis shows that 101 of these 504 degrees are BFA, BM, and other programs not affected by this change. The remaining programs are primarily BS degrees, mostly engineering.

The BOT approved the baccalaureate unit limit. Implementation details can be accessed at AA-2013-02. A two-year implementation timeline, based on the number of units in the degree program, is in place.

Slides accompanying reports given at the BOT on student mental health services, SB 1440 transfer degrees, baccalaureate unit limits, Early Assessment Program, Early Start Program, and Extended Education can be accessed at the following link: http://www.calstate.edu/AcadAff/Presentations/

ASCSU Priorities Shared with Chancellor White
January 16, 2013

Recommitment to Shared Governance Process at the System Level

The ASCSU seeks earlier faculty involvement in the shared governance process, as envisioned in AS-2489-00/FGA. This is particularly critical in areas where faculty have primary responsibility, such as "admission and degree requirements, the curriculum and methods of teaching, academic and professional standards, and the conduct of creative and scholarly activities" (Report of the Board of Trustees' Ad Hoc Committee on Governance, Collegiality, and Responsibility in the California State University, page 47).

Reinvest in Faculty to Support Academic Excellence

After years of budget cuts, employee morale is low. The CSU strategic plan, Access to Excellence (A2E), and its predecessor, Cornerstones, set goals for faculty recruitment and retention. The summative evaluation of Cornerstones acknowledged limited progress toward these goals, and working conditions have declined markedly over the course of the A2E strategic plan. The ASCSU Faculty Profile Report discusses the status of faculty hiring with respect to A2E goals.

CSU Mission and Strategic Communications

The ASCSU is committed to the CSU mission of access, affordability, and quality. Senators are concerned about movement toward privatization of the CSU (e.g., Cal State Online) and actions that reduce the distinctiveness of our unique campuses.

Disharmony among the constituencies of the CSU (students, faculty, staff, administration) and recent decisions of the BOT (e.g., fee increases, executive compensation) have resulted in negative media coverage that undermines the CSU brand/image and that of public higher education in general.

Academic Quality

The student-faculty ratio has worsened, and tenure-track hiring has slowed. Cal State Online, MOOCs, and other technologies are viewed as ways to reduce the costs of higher education, and these may not serve CSU students well. Investments in instructionally-related equipment and faculty development have been cut.