**Statewide Senate Report November 8-9, 2012**

John Tarjan and Andreas Gebauer

1. **Chair’s Report** 
   1. Chair Guerin made the following announcements.
      1. ICAS is looking at the CA e-textbook initiative signed into law by the Governor. The repository will be established only after private matching funds have been received. They are also looking at MOOCs.
      2. Chair Guerin, Faculty Trustee Cheyne, and CFA President Taiz jointly presented recently at an AAUP conference in Washington D.C.
      3. New Chancellor White was the unanimous choice to lead us by the recommending and selection committees.
      4. An ASCSU workgroup is meeting to develop a response to the new WASC accreditation standards.

<http://www.wascsenior.org/annoucements/request-comments-draft-2013-handbook-accreditation>

* + 1. Her written report can be found at <http://www.calstate.edu/AcadSen/Records/Chairs_Reports/documents/November_2012_Chairs_Report.pdf>

1. **Excerpts from Other Reports**
   1. **Academic Affairs**
      1. There was concerned expressed from the floor about the imposition of the 120/180 unit degree cap. Responses were requested from the departments offering the 105 degrees systemwide with more than 120 units. Many of these majors have already been reduced to 120 units or are in the process of working towards that goal. Some programs are in the process of working on exemption requests. Engineering have a particularly difficult time preparing students with a 120 unit limit. There is concern that the timelines involved in this initiative are unrealistic. Accounting may also face challenges.
   2. **Academic Preparation and Education Programs**
      1. The committee is experiencing difficulty getting its work done in interim meetings under a virtual meeting format.
      2. We reviewed a significant amount of assessment data related to Early Start. A more formal assessment is desired by the committee.
      3. Progress on the STAR Act is difficult to assess until a larger cohort transfers with transfer AAs.
      4. The committee discussed the need to consider the uniqueness of our student bodies when developing policies.
      5. The committee discussed the new Common Core curriculum and Smarter Balance testing at length. The Governor has committed the state to implementing this curriculum. It will involve significant curricular revision and teacher in-service and pre-service training. There are issues associated with computerized and bubble-in testing approaches.
   3. **Faculty Affairs**
      1. Chief counsel Helwick indicated that faculty are in control of classroom activities and students need to obtain permission prior to taping and disseminating class presentations. Still, accommodation for students with disabilities must be provided.
      2. They are looking at establishing a website that would highlight faculty excellence.
   4. **Fiscal and Governmental Affairs**
      1. The CSU Legislative Scorecard was discussed. The one published this year may be the first one developed by the CSU.
      2. FGA is working on “meeting and greeting” legislators and developing a brochure on the CSU/ASCSU.
      3. They are working on both district and Sacramento advocacy for next spring.
      4. Senator Krabacher distributed a legislative report. It is attached.
   5. **Faculty Trustee Cheyne** was absent. Her written report should be posted shortly at <http://www.calstate.edu/AcadSen/Records/Faculty_Trustee/index.shtml>
   6. **GE Advisory Committee**
      1. Oral Communication
         1. The subgroup looking at piloting assessment of online training in oral communication is making progress and GEAC has asked the subgroup to draft an RFP for interested CSU entities to evaluate the effectiveness of online instruction.
         2. GEAC was surprised to learn that HSU has authorized an online only oral communication for their native students and has petitioned to offer this online oral communication via Cal State Online. A referral to Academic Affairs to consider whether CCC-comparable restrictions for online instruction for a principally transfer population (vs. matriculated students) should be considered.
      2. C-ID / GEAC relationship
         1. The continued evolution and development of C-ID and SB-1440 implementation leads some Transfer Model Curricula to specify requirements for some C-ID courses in TMCs to “double-count” major + GE coursework.
         2. GEAC was asked to consider what could occur to facilitate CCC course offerings to meet the joint needs of C-ID and CSU GE.
         3. Concurrent approval via either C-ID or CSU GE review processes was rejected.  Facilitating concurrent submission for both separate review processes was strongly encouraged.
      3. “C” Grade (2.0) Minimum for CSU “Golden 4” GE Courses
         1. For transfer students, there are conflicting guidance and requirements.
         2. Eric Forbes and Mark Van Selst will develop a “one-page” sheet outlining intended changes. These intended changes are likely to include:
            1. 2.0 grade in each of the CSU GE golden four courses both native and transfer students
            2. 2.0 GPA across all courses in CSU GE
      4. The WICHE Passport project and potential changes in oral communication, written communication, and critical thinking
         1. The work on the Passport Project re inter-state transferability is largely parallel to existing course-to-course articulation.  CSU GE is commonly accepted outside of California.  The “reverse-transfer” problem is not a large one at the moment
         2. Work on oral communication, written communication, and quantitative reasoning may result in potential changes to GE reviewer notes to be considered in January.
      5. STATWAY
         1. A comprehensive update on STATWAY was provided to GEAC.
         2. One of the major discussion items was the algebra requirements for the Area B4 and the role of algebra in the baccalaureate. This discussion will continue.
      6. Compass
         1. The compass project leadership is very aware of the need to move from the encouragement of exploratory efforts on COMPASS-related activities towards assessment and potential revisions to systemwide GE.
         2. There will be a Compass conference in March at La Cañada College.
   7. **Academic Technology Advisory Committee**
      1. The Committee heard a report about outreach to and partnerships with locally based technology companies, including Cisco, Adobe, and Apple; offering an engineering course partially using materials taken from an MIT MOOC; and a program to encourage faculty to try experimentation of using technology in the classroom (e.g. lecture capture and establishment of learning communities).
      2. The Committee also heard a report on an effort from biology faculty from across the system developing an electronic textbook.  It was asked if the CO was working on programs in response to SB 1052 (see <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/11-12/bill/sen/sb_1051-1100/sb_1052_bill_20120208_introduced.pdf>).  This is under consideration.  There is a project looking at libraries of the future which is looking at how faculty are using libraries in their classes and what implications technology will have for libraries going forward.  There was also a discussion of the use of technology to meet the needs of mathematics and English preparation of students.  To date, success in using technology tools for students such as ALEKS has been limited.  Greater success has been achieved in the use of tools geared to teachers of high school English.
   8. **International Programs**
      1. ACIP met in the CO recently. 575 students are studying abroad this academic year in the CSU study abroad program in 18 countries. (Many others are in other study abroad/exchange programs). France, Spain, Italy and Germany are the most popular programs. The average cost for students is about $11,000 per year. Applications for resident directorships (CSU faculty) in China, France, Italy and Spain are currently being distributed. The CSU is looking at reopening the Mexico program. The Israel program has been reinstituted. Local security considerations are an important consideration.
   9. **CSSS Report**—Jonathon Bolin indicated that over 31,000 new voters were registered. Analysis showed that young people had a big impact getting Prop 30 passed. CHESS (student leadership and advocacy conference) will take place in Sacramento in April. CSSA leadership will meet this month with leaders in Washington to advocate on behalf of students on a variety of issues.
   10. **ERFA**—Harold Goldwhite reported that the council met in October. Health benefits continue to be a major concern. Retirees have benefits comparable to those of other faculty. Co-payments are increasing. There may be some significant CAP-PERS changes. Only 5% of males in CAL-PERS long-term care program utilize its benefits. Medicare is likely to cover more types of long-term costs than in the past, including pre-existing conditions. ERFA gives grants to support retired faculty research. Local chapters support a number of scholarships. Leaders met with AVC Vogel to explore ways for closer collaboration/participation in the CSU. They are interested in having campuses review their emeriti polices as per our ASCSU resolution. William Blischke and Barry Pasternack added that there will be a survey of current faculty gauging interest in avenues to contribute to the CSU after retirement.
   11. **English Council**—Two items were prominent on their agenda. Early Start has had mixed success but all agreed there was an advantage to having student interact early with faculty. They feel the program should be blended with orientation activities. It appears there was little or no improvement in student performance after the single week program. There were high participation and completion rates. The Council has recommendations regarding self-placement, etc. that they are concerned are not being given enough consideration. There are concerns about the continuing funding of the program and the potential financial impact on students if funding is not available for scholarships. The new single subject teaching credential in English, WL:ELD, may be earned by students who pass the CSET and have ESL or related coursework but lack existing required coursework in composition.
2. Harold Goldwhite (LA), Chris Miller (Sacramento), Barry Pasternack (Fullerton), John Tarjan (Bakersfield) and Kathy Kaiser (Chico) have been elected to serve on the **Faculty Trustee Nominating Committee**. Dr. Goldwhite will be chair. Two additional members will be appointed from Northridge and Sonoma after a random campus selection.
3. We passed the following resolutions without a second reading due to their time urgency. Copies of this and other resolutions can be found at <http://www.calstate.edu/AcadSen/Records/Resolutions/>.
   1. **Resolution Welcoming Timothy P. White as Chancellor Select of the California State University** is self-explanatory.
   2. **Postponement of Implementation of Consolidated Executive Orders Regarding International Programs at CSU Campuses** requests more time for the new Chancellor, the faculty, and others to review the draft EOs prior to finalizing them.
   3. **Opposition to Proposed Graduation Incentive, Third-Tier Tuition and Course Repeat Fees** is self-explanatory.
4. We passed the following resolutions. Copies of this and other resolutions can be found at <http://www.calstate.edu/AcadSen/Records/Resolutions/>.
   1. **Faculty Consultation on Baccalaureate Unit Limits** asserts the primary role and expertise faculty have in determining curriculum and standards, asserts that some programs may rightfully require more than 120/180 units, and urges shared governance principles be followed when setting academic and curricular policy.
   2. **Support for An Executive Order on California State University (CSU) Systemwide Nursing Policy** supports the proposed Executive Order addressing legal requirements for nursing programs.
   3. **California State University Board of Trustees Proposed 2013-14 Support Budget** is self-explanatory.
5. We introduced several resolutions at the plenary. These will return as second reading items in November after being reviewed on the campuses.
   1. **Selection of Committee Chairs** would amend our by-laws to have committee chairs elected by the standing committees immediately after our organizational meeting in May.
   2. **On the California State University Board of Trustees Instituted State University Grants (SUGs)** recommends the BOT phase out these grants. It is unclear if this proposal has any support outside of the recommending committee. In effect, SUGs redistribute the cost of a CSU education between students since a portion of fee increases incurred by most students are used to increase the dollar amount of SUGs to other students.
   3. **Support for Alternative General Education Pathways for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) Transfer Students** urges the creation of GE transfer pathways that preserve student rights and guarantees while allowing them to substitute some lower-division GE coursework with major/major preparation coursework.
   4. **A Smoke-Free California State University** requests that smoking and other tobacco use be banned entirely on CSU campuses.
   5. **Importance of Considering the Unique Characteristics of the CSU Student Body and the Differential Impacts That Proposed Policy Will Have on Students** urges more analysis of new policies, and the piloting of those policies, before systemwide implementation. This resolution is in reaction to proposed fee changes and other changes that often have unintended consequences.
   6. **Faculty Involvement in the Establishment of a Uniform Set of Academic Standards for the Inclusion of High School Career Technical Courses (CTE) in Area g of the CSU a-g Admissions Standards** is intended to remind outside groups that in all areas, including the establishment of these standards, that ASCSU is the appointing for faculty representing the CSU to both internal and external groups.
6. **Chancellor Charles Reed** began by discussing the dire financial situation of the CSU is despite the passage of Prop 30. We are still about $900m “in the hole.” We are sending a budget proposal to the Governor with $70m in tuition increases and $370 in new general fund support for next year. We are facing a very difficult task of refunding tuition and recalculating financial aid due to the retroactive fee rollback. The $125m in promised increased funding next year from the state will not cover the $132m in fee reductions this year, or next year. Dr. Reed took money from the CERF fund to make up for about half the shortfall and spare campuses additional dramatic reductions. Campuses will have to find $70m dollars in additional cuts through June. We are requesting a budget augmentation of $85m to increase salaries 3%. We need a commitment from our political leadership to begin to reinvest in public higher education in California. Prop 30 just spared us from further cuts, it didn’t help restore funding. Public schools and public safety are the main beneficiaries of Prop 30. However, if the overall budget picture gets better, we may be in a better position to make a case for some restoration of funding. Q: Are we vulnerable to an additional cut given the dim budget picture? A: You are correct. Revenue collections are down every month. The December revenue number (released in January) will be very important for the state. Q: What is the status of the “trigger” measures in front of the Board now that Prop 30 passed? A: We have to find $70m in addition to the CERF funds. Those will be gone. We must do something about health care costs. Our current approach to health care costs is not sustainable. Since he has been Chancellor, health care costs have increased almost 500%. Employees sharing 20% of the costs, as is done in most state agencies, seems a more sustainable approach. This would need to be bargained. Q: Is there a mandate to implement the November Title 5 BOT recommendations now? A: No. Q: is the move from quarters to semesters a done deal? A: Hard to know. I have been trying to get this done since I got here. A semester system is more efficient. If schools like the Ohio State University are switching, it likely does not adversely affect quality. We will be able to admit 18,000 more students if we reduce repeats, excessive course loads, excessive units prior to graduation. Moving students through more efficiently will save them thousands of dollars in tuition and books. 44,000 seats are taken due to course repetitions. The Senate presented Chancellor Reed with a commendation, a gift, and a contribution to the Reed/Hearst Scholarship Fund.
7. **AAUP VP Hank Reichman** reported on the AAUP Shared Governance Conference in Washington two weeks ago. The ASCSU/BOT/CFA presentation was well attended. It was gratifying to see all three faculty leaders together in the same venue. He reported on a change in leadership and direction of the AAUP. He discussed organization efforts on campuses and opposition to anti-union legislation. There is a nascent effort to organize the faculty of the University of California. The organization will soon split operationally into 3 separate organizations with distinct functions. They will be a foundation, a professional organization, and a union organization. He closed with an invitation to attend AAUP events. There is a lot of value for faculty at these meetings. The 100th anniversary of their statement on academic freedom and organization of the association is coming up next spring. CFA members can join AAUP simply by signing up on the CFA web site.
8. **CFA Liaison David Bradfield** reported gratification with the outcomes of the election dealing with propositions. CFA is gratified that Props 30 and 39 passed and that Props 32 and 38 were defeated. He thanked ASCSU for their resolutions and reviewed the hard work of CFA in working towards these outcomes. He discussed the 120/180 unit cap Title 5 change to be considered in the January BOT meeting. CFA believes that it moves curricular control to the Chancellor from the faculty and that it may adversely affect quality. The new fees proposed in the November meeting are opposed by CFA. CFA has concerns about several aspects of Cal State Online including contractual issues. CFA is part of the Campaign for the Future of Higher Education. This organization has just released a paper on contingent faculty and quality of instruction. In response to an inquiry on pay equity: equity is front and center of our attention. The presidents play a major role in this. It is unclear how any potential salary increases will be implemented. CFA committees have not yet met on this issue for the next round of bargaining.
9. **CSU Alumni Council President Guy Heston** reviewed the composition and operations of the Council. It has both volunteer chapter presidents and alumni directors in its membership. The alumni are grateful for the degrees they have earned in the CSU. The Council tries to support local chapters through sharing information and best practices. It also advocates on behalf of the CSU. It worked hard for the passage of Prop 30. They are planning a “super” mixer in Orange County for all alumni (faculty invited) at the House of Blues on November 13th. They have started inviting successful alumni to do short presentations at the BOT meetings, rather than just having the Council President do a report.
10. **AVC Christine Mallon** discussed the revision of item 3 from the Committee on Educational Policy Board agenda. The focus on general education was changed to deal specifically with ways to reduce required units in programs currently requiring over 120 units. Mechanisms are provided for exceptions. The policy would apply to all concentrations and options. There was a suggestion that a faculty group be appointed to provide advice to the Chancellor on exceptions.
11. **EVC Smith** indicated that immediately after the passage of Prop 30 the campuses were notified that they could begin to process the backlog of applications that were held pending election results. (Most applications are not received until after Thanksgiving).Tuition refunds will be a major undertaking.We are collecting data on persistence. It is the third year of our graduation initiative. SB 1440 continues to move along. We will have a committee meeting in Sacramento on Nov. 19th. We are tracking the number of students applying to transfer with a transfer AA. Many students are applying for the 1440 admissions preference without completing a transfer AA. Unless they complete the degree, the preference will not be given. Applications for Spring 13 are down, as projected. Graduate applications and credential applications are down also. This continues a long term decrease in credential enrollments. We had just under 19,000 students in the Early Start program this summer. We will have more students as we increase the percentages of students needing remediation required to participate in the program. Currently, only the students scoring in the lowest quartile in math are required to participate. This will move to the bottom third next year and all non-exempt students in the next year. EAP testing is increasingly expensive. Academic Affairs is working with the Senate and provosts to develop a “toolkit” of options and strategies programs can use to reduce their required units to 120. There has been no mandate to the campuses to begin working on these reductions. The item has not yet been approved by the Board. There were multiple comments that the proposed timelines in the Board agenda item dealing with reduction of programs to 120 units. The consideration of the item was put back but the timeline remained the same. It is not realistic. EVC Smith promised to take a look at the timeline. Another comment decried the comparison of our programs to those at Berkeley. We typically do not draw our students from the same pool. Why should we think our programs should precisely mirror theirs? EVC Smith discussed “super seniors,” those with more than 150 units and not receiving a degree. Many of these 9000 students should likely graduate and be seeking graduate degrees. There was much skepticism voiced about the proposed 120 unit cap policy by many members of the body.
12. **EVC Quillian** began by sharing his gratitude that Prop 30 passed but acknowledged that with the tuition rollback, we will still face a $132m reduction in the budget from last year. Tuition rollbacks will pose a logistical problem for the campuses. We were cut $750m last year. These funds have not been restored. Our long term goal is to see those funds restored. I hope we more fully involve our students in the future in advocacy. If federal sequestration goes forward, it will mean an 8.2% across-the-board cut for federal education programs. Only Pell would be spared. We may get $125m next year in restoration but there is little appetite for tuition increases in Sacramento. We only have two revenue sources—tuition and general fund allocations. If those diminish, we cannot avoid reducing what we do. Because of the passage of Prop 30, we have around $118m held in reserve that can return to the campuses. In response to a question on reserve funds: We use the terms “restricted” and “unrestricted” in ways that are different that their common uses. Many of the uses of “unrestricted net assets” are actually governed by law, making them unavailable for other purposes. “Expendable” funds in foundations are used for debt service, scholarships, etc. “Non-expendable funds” are kept as an endowment. We also use the terms “undesignated” and “designated.” Our auditing firm is seeking expert opinion about the retitling of these categories to more clearly convey their purposes and restrictions. Because of unpredictable occurrences, such as the state not having enough cash to cover our payroll, I have instructed campus CFOs to keep a cash balance. A concern was expressed to EVC Quillian that budget concerns are used as a “pretense” to subvert shared governance and change the nature of the university that is based upon a model that has stood the test of time for more than a hundred years. Response: in the five years since I have arrived, we have been cut 1/3 of our budget, $1b. We need to honor shared governance but change has been forced upon us on a schedule that forces us to act quickly. The reductions have not only been large, but have been imposed with little notice. Chancellor White already has several meetings scheduled with the Governor to discuss these issues. Comment: the new proposed fee structure would impose fees that would pose significant hardship for many of our economically-disadvantaged students. We hope you will reconsider the magnitude of these fees. The third tier fee seems to be contrary to the goals of the Graduation Initiative. Typically, only the best students qualify to take extra units. If you go forward, please phase it in to allow students to address issues before the new fees kick in. Response: there will likely not be a lot of revenue raised from these funds. The goal is to change student behavior to open up more access for students whom we currently cannot serve. Regarding semester conversion: the Presidents’ group looking at this issue has concluded that there will be benefit to both the system and the campuses. The final decision will be made by the incoming Chancellor. It appears that for the first time this year we are receiving more revenue from tuition and fees than we are from state support.
13. **CSSA Liaison Jonathon Bolin** indicated that there was leadership training during the summer including over 250 students. CSSA-sponsored AB 970 (6 month waiting period before tuition can be raised) has been passed and is awaiting the Governor’s signature. CSSA will be meeting at CSU, Fullerton this weekend for their normal board meeting. They will also be considering their 2012-13 policy agenda. <http://www.csustudents.org/publicresources/agendas/agenda_0912/Agenda_Sept-2012.pdf> Jonathan reported on efforts to reach out to all students, to lobby in Sacramento, etc. He urged faculty to support the CSSA voter registration drive. They are discussing funding of CSSA, including a semester $1 fee.

**Summary of 2011-2012 Legislative Actions**

**submitted by**

**Thomas Krabacher**

**ASCSU Legislative Specialist**

**ASCSU Plenary November 8-9, 2012**

By the end of September 30, 2012 the Governor was required to sign or not sign (veto) all legislation desk by the state legislature from the preceding legislative session. The table below shows the final disposition of those bills that were of interest to the ASCSU during 2011-2012.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Bill** | **Topic** | | **ASCSU action** | **Disposition** |
| AB 645 (Davis) | *Ethnic studies grad requirement* | Opposed | | Died in committee |
| AB 970 (Fong) | *System-wide Fees* | Opposed  AS-3066-12 | | Signed by Governor |
| AB 1561 (Hernandez) | *Presidential compensation* | Opposed  AS-3055-12 | | Died in committee |
| AB 1564 (Lara)  AB 1434 (Vargas)  SB 1264 (Leno) | *Mandatory abuse reporting* | Intent to oppose | | Withdrawn *(AB 1564)*  Signed by Governor *(AB 1434 & SB 1264)* |
| AB 2132 (Lara) | *Post-secondary tenure criteria* | Did not oppose but discussed leg. staff | | Vetoed by Governor |
| AB 2471 (Lara) | *eTextbook requirements* | No action | | Died – held under submission |
| SB 952 Alquist) | *Presidential/executive compensation* | Opposed  AS-3055-12 | | Died in committee |
| SB 967 (Yee) | *Presidential compensation* | Opposed  AS-3055-12 | | Died in committee |
| SB 721 (Lowenthal) | *Preservation of CPEC data* | No action, but of  interest | | Signed by Governor |
| SB 1052 (Steinberg) | *Open-source e-texts, development of* | Took no position, but consulted with author | | Signed by Governor |
| SB 1053 (Steinberg) | *Open-source e-texts, clearing house for* | Took no position, but consulted with author | | Signed by Governor |