

**ACADEMIC SENATE CSU (ASCSU) REPORT TO CSU BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**CATHERINE NELSON, CHAIR ASCSU**  
**MARCH 24, 2020**

The Academic Senate CSU held its March 2020 Committee and Plenary meetings over the course of three days last week. I want to thank my ASCSU colleagues for their patience and cooperation as we worked our way through our first-ever all virtual plenary, and our Executive and Extended Executive Committees for their hard work in ensuring the meeting was a success.

To make the best use of our time, we passed seven resolutions, postponed others to May and considered several additional resolutions in first reading. Given time constraints I will verbally report on two of the most immediately significant resolutions we passed here; short summaries of the others are included for you below as well.

Most relevant to our immediate circumstances, the ASCSU passed a resolution on CSU Accommodations to Faculty Due to the COVID-19 Emergency. The resolution notes that CSU faculty have taken on the arduous task of shifting all courses to non-face-to-face modes of instruction in response to the pandemic. We recommend: that individual faculty members determine without penalty whether student perceptions of teaching effectiveness for the Spring 2020 term(s) will appear in their Personnel Action File (PAF) and Working PAF (WPAF); that probationary faculty be granted an additional year in RTP considerations if requested; and that the appropriate administrator place a memo in faculty PAF files outlining the difficulties encountered during this time that might impact teaching, service and scholarly and creative activity. The resolution also asserts faculty intellectual property rights and asks for sufficient resources to support alternate modes of instruction. The resolution also calls for appropriate cleaning of campus facilities and calls for the restoration of appropriate pedagogical approaches to instruction at the conclusion of the COVID-19 emergency.

As legislative and intercampus conversations continue about ethnic studies in the CSU, we took further action regarding the Chancellor's Office response to our January 2020 resolution (AS-3403-19/AA (REV)) that recommended the implementation of a CSU system ethnic studies requirement. In his March 17, 2020 memo to the ASCSU, Executive Vice Chancellor Loren Blanchard replied to our resolution with an alternative proposal. Our resolution from last week is in response to that alternative proposal. The resolution affirms our original AS-3403 with the following modifications:

- A campus may operationalize the system ethnic studies requirement and associated learning outcomes in a manner appropriate to its campus culture and context through normal curricular processes,
- The scope of the ethnic studies requirement may include the experiences of additional historically oppressed groups (e.g., Jewish, Muslim, LGBTQ, women, etc.) but should otherwise retain the core definition of ethnic studies from AS 3403-19;

The resolution specifically notes that the following considerations covered in AS-3403-19/AA remain unchanged:

- The primary ethnic studies requirement is to be met within lower division GE (this may be a course that also counts for another area of GE),

- The desire is for all CSU students to have a CSU-experience with ethnic studies (i.e., the upper division reflection element [as determined by the local campus] to encourage content mastery and deep learning), and
- The expectation is that students will have the ability to complete all of lower division GE within the prescribed 39 units.

The ASCSU also passed two resolutions on transfer, a subject we expect to be prominent in intersegmental and legislative discussions in the fall. The first resolution acknowledges the nearly decade of success utilizing Transfer Model Curricula (TMCs)/Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADTs) as pathways for CCC students to the CSU. The resolution encourages exploration of potential alignment of major transfer patterns by intersegmental discipline faculty representatives and opposes efforts to explore alignment without CSU discipline faculty member participation. The second urges adequate support for CSU staff and faculty to accomplish the important work of implementation and maintenance of Transfer Model Curricula (TMCs), the basis for CCC Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADTs). Crucial to that success is the creation of a listserv of faculty disciplinary experts to facilitate consultation across the CSU regarding intersegmental curricular developments.

The Senate also passed our annual Legislative Advocacy Positions resolution for 2020. In it, the ASCSU takes a position on eleven bills currently before the California State Legislature, a modest number reflective of the reduced circumstances of a virtual plenary. Of particular note, the ASCSU supports the CSU allocation in the budget bills making their way through the legislature; continues opposition to AB 1460 that mandates a CSU ethnic studies requirement and opposes the newer AB 3310 that mandates an ethnic studies requirement for the California Community Colleges and opposes a bill that would make permanent and expand the Community College bachelor's degree program. Regarding our students' well-being and total cost of attendance, the ASCSU supports a bill regarding the availability of free sexual assault kits near or on campuses; supports a bill requiring a ratio of one counselor to every 1500 students; and supports two bills regarding free tuition.

Finally, the statewide Senate passed a resolution endorsing the American Association of University Professors' statement "In Defense of Knowledge in Higher Education" and a commendation in recognition of Larry Mandel, Vice Chancellor and Chief Audit Officer for the CSU (1997-2020) and his half century of work for the CSU and the people of California.

Thank you, Chair Day. That concludes my report.