

# Report from ASCSU May 7-8, 2020

John Tarjan, Janet Millar and Mark Martinez

## 1. Chair Nelson covered the following items in her oral report.

- Elections for general officers will take place tomorrow.
- She is grateful for the support of the Senate and ASCSU staff during her term as chair.
- Her written report can be found at [http://www.calstate.edu/AcadSen/Records/Chairs\\_Reports/](http://www.calstate.edu/AcadSen/Records/Chairs_Reports/)

## 2. Excerpts from Other Reports

- **Academic Affairs** discussed the following
  - Ethnic Studies
  - COVID-19-related issues
  - Next year's committee agenda
- **Academic Preparation and Education Programs** worked on the following
  - 3 resolutions
  - Teacher preparation
  - Microsoft grant to support teacher candidates
- **Faculty Affairs** have several resolutions in front of the body and discussed the following topics embodied in resolutions before the body.
  - Creating a humane environment in the CSU
  - ORCHID database
  - Lecturer range elevations
  - Respecting and engaging faculty expertise
- **Fiscal and Governmental Affairs** discussed the following topics.
  - The role of the Senate under HEERA
  - AB 1930
  - Title IX (treatment of sexual assault)
- **GE Advisory Committee** covered the following topics at its May 5 2020 meeting:
  - Implementation of the new GE appeal processes for current year GE submissions from the community colleges (includes interface with the UC).
  - Modality of Instruction and GE outcomes (re: COVID changes, esp. re: lab courses).
  - Assisting GEAC in its role through establishing communications with campus GE administrative representatives, GE assessment, and GE faculty directors.
  - System constraints on systemic substitutions for CSU GE (partially re: credit for prior learning and current actions affecting the CCC system).
  - Ethnic studies (implementation and discussion of the proposed BOT presentation).
    - definition of what it might be
    - question of what standards are required for articulation
    - possible unit flexibility or distribution issues (ADT etc.)
    - outcomes vs units as the core driver of the requirement
  - Credit by examination under COVID (AP/IB/CLEP testing centers...)

- **COLD** (Council of Library Directors) The CSU has reached agreement with Elsevier. They discussed issues associated with library cleaning. All libraries are closed. All books are due on August 31. Are implementing a system to assure 2 copies of every book remain in the systemwide collections. Are working to improve interlibrary loan system. Are attempting to purchase more electronic resource materials. ProQuest no longer will search newspaper content. They may be offering a new program to do that.
- **The Chancellor's Forgivable Loan Program Committee** Deliberations were delayed this year. They will meet on May 15 and perhaps only half the awards this year as compared to previous years due to budgetary uncertainty.
- **The Chancellor's Pre-Doctoral Advisory Committee** expects to meet in June.
- **Intersegmental Curriculum Workgroup** is concerned about delays in course reviews and facilitation of transfer model curricula.
- **Committee on Services for Students with Disabilities** are doing a 5 year review of their policy guidelines. Proctoring technologies for use with alternative delivery were explored. None of the technologies are fully accessible.
- **Institute for Teaching and Learning**
  - Have offered lots of training opportunities during the COVID pandemic.
  - Have secured 3 grants to support faculty training and development.
- **Math Council** Met on April 10. They approved a document containing guidelines for Area B4 course content and learning outcomes.

## RESOLUTIONS

1. The ASCSU passed the following second reading items. Copies of these and other resolutions can be found at <http://www.calstate.edu/AcadSen/Records/Resolutions/>.
  - **Creation of a Holistic and Humane Educational Environment in the California State University (CSU)** states that this goal should be a primary focus of the CSU and urges the creation of a task force to help accomplish it.
  - **Opposition to AB 1930—CSU/UC Admission Policy** asserts that the restrictions contained in this bill would hamper the Board of Trustees' ability to set policy to meet the needs of our students.
  - **Advising High School Juniors Intending to Enroll in the California State University (CSU) to Enroll in a Mathematics-Reinforcing Course in Their Senior Year** complements the current proposed additional quantitative reasoning admissions requirement currently before the Board of Trustees. It calls for the development of learning outcomes appropriate for such a course and strong advice to students, parents and counselors that such a course be taken.
  - **Resolution in Support of ORCID (Open Researcher and Contributor ID) for the California State University (CSU)** ORCID is a not-for-profit group which facilitates collaboration and research by providing accurate and self-modifiable information in an easy to access database and provides contributors a unique ID.
  - **Endorsement of Criteria for Chemistry and Physics Model Curricula (MC) for Transfer to Receive the Same Admission Advantage as for Transfer Model Curricula (TMC)** It is likely more advisable for students in these majors to take these other sets of courses prior to transfer than to complete an Associate Degree for Transfer. The resolution endorses the principle that students who take a more

appropriate pathway should be encouraged to do so by receiving the same admissions advantage to impacted programs that students completing an ADT receive.

- **Academic Senate of the CSU Calendar of 2020-2021 Meetings** is a self-explanatory resolution.
- **Re-Affirming the Role of the Academic Senate of the California State University (ASCSU) and Campus Senates in Establishing Curriculum and Graduation Requirements** affirms the role of the ASCSU established in the Higher Education Employer Employee Relations Act and supported by the ASCSU constitution and AAUP statements on shared governance.

2. The ASCSU passed the following resolutions after waiving a first reading. Normally first reading items are distributed to campuses for feedback. However, if the ASCSU deems an item to be urgent (e.g. the need to provide input before a policy or piece of legislation is being considered) it may waive the second reading. Copies of this and other resolutions can be found at <http://www.calstate.edu/AcadSen/Records/Resolutions/>.

- **Commending the Students, Faculty, Staff and Administrators of the California State University (CSU) System during the COVID-19 Global Pandemic of 2020** acknowledges and expresses appreciation for the cooperation and resilience demonstrated by the members of the CSU family in the face of this public health crisis.
- **Respecting and Engaging Disciplinary Expertise** encourages CSU central administration to utilize faculty disciplinary expertise and councils in curricular and other matters.
- **Opposition to Proposed Changes to Title IX** responds to the relaxing of required standards of evidence, etc. in the handling of cases of sexual misconduct which were implemented by the Department of Education this week.
- **A Comprehensive Faculty-Needs Assessment at All Campuses of the California State University** encourages surveys initiated by campus senates to assess the required training and resources to support alternative delivery of the curriculum in the fall and the provision of resources to support the associated training and development.

## OTHER REPORTS

1. **Faculty Trustee Sabalius** reported that the BOT meeting will last all day on Tuesday. All public comment will begin at 9:00 and be via Zoom or in writing. There are very few action items of general interest on the agenda. He discussed several bills on the Trustees Legislative Agenda, including the ones being addressed by ASCSU. In Education Policy there are two Title 5 changes that are information items (like first readings). 1) Establishment of student residency status.2) Ethnic Studies requirement. The new Chair of the Board will be Lillian Kimbell. The new Vice Chair will be Wenda Fong. The Chancellor will make a report on COVID-19 planning. Financial impacts of the pandemic can be found in the Committee on Finance agenda. The board proposal on Ethnic Studies incorporates many recommendations from the ASCSU resolution. Perhaps the biggest departure from those recommendations is in the mechanisms for approval and offering of

these courses. The Governor's May revised budget will be announced on May 14 (however, this will only be a tentative revision due to the COVID pandemic).

His written report can be found at

[http://www.calstate.edu/AcadSen/Records/Faculty\\_Trustee/index.shtml](http://www.calstate.edu/AcadSen/Records/Faculty_Trustee/index.shtml)

**2. Chancellor Tim White** wished everyone well and expressed his gratitude for all we do for our students. The key to managing the pandemic is getting 60-80% of the population to immunity. Right now we are closer to 1-2%. It will likely be a year to 1½ years before we have a widely available vaccine. Within the next year it is predicted that between 40-70% of the world population will be infected. The less optimistic estimates of mortality mean that hundreds of millions of people may die from the disease. Even though the pandemic is ebbing in some parts of California, we expect San Diego County to continue to be a vector. We expect that without a vaccine, it will take 2 years to develop "herd immunity." We may be facing this crisis for at least the next two years. Many medical trials are taking place around the world. They have been working on a SARS vaccine for 17 years with little success. Scaling and distribution of a successful vaccine will likely hinder our ability to return back to normal even if a successful vaccine is developed. Testing everyone every week for the virus, a potential approach to restarting, would entail very high costs currently. We need to safeguard our employees and students who have underlying vulnerabilities. Dorm living needs to be curtailed. Some campuses have very limited off-campus housing. There is a trade-off between distancing in dorms and having students cram into other available housing if they have few options. Experts are unanimous that there will be a second wave in the fall in late November/early December (flu season) and the impact of this second wave will be significantly worse than those associated with the first one. They also predict a third wave for March. We expect at most 20% of the population will have antibodies by that time. We have to plan for contact tracing, cleaning, and distancing. We are facing the challenge of our lifetime in higher education. Requiring all members of the campus community to get a flu vaccine in order to return to campus raises civil liberty issues. People should probably be tested in conjunction with their flu vaccine administration. Dr. White also addressed the state budget. Last week CA had 500,000 new unemployment claims, adding up to 4.4m total. This represents about 12% of the workforce. The rate is predicted to grow to 18%, three times the total during the recession of 2008-10. New housing starts are down by 20%. All main CA tax revenues are predicted to go down by more than 20%. General fund revenue is predicted to decrease \$41.2b from January projections. There is a 32% predicted decrease in K-14 mandatory funding for next year under Prop 98 guidelines. We are unsure about how many students will enroll in the fall and expect to continuously revise predictions. The impact on revenues may be felt much more immediately by our auxiliaries (dorms, parking, etc.). Even though the numbers look daunting, the Chancellor is still optimistic about our ability going forward to serve our students. We will need to be flexible in how we deploy funding from different sources to support our operations, but we will continue to serve our students. The CSU plays a critical role in the economy of CA and must continue to fulfill its mission. Students should be discouraged from "gapping out" during the next year. They should continue to pursue their educational goals even if we have to make

accommodations due to the pandemic. This will be a multi-year problem and our state revenues are likely to decrease going forward. During the last recession, our state revenues decreased by about 1/3. Both the CSU and UC raised tuition but the increased tuition revenues only backfilled about 30% of the cuts. Our HHS-type costs in the state went up \$7b in the past two months. We hope not to have large budget cuts but they are a real possibility. Raising tuition is not a pleasant option, especially as many of our students come from families with limited resources. We need to get our technology and other resources in place early if we are to guarantee students a quality learning experience even if we need to move to alternative delivery. Students on financial aid are being allowed to recompute their FAFSA information to receive larger awards. We are quite concerned that students in low income families may not be aware of available financial aid and will change their higher education plans, even as a higher education is needed by many of these same students more than ever. We will need to innovate ways to deliver a quality education under constraints. Campuses may be able to share resources and deliver education to each other's students. Unprecedented cooperation between campuses may be required. Shouldn't we consider waiving some residency rules, etc.? We rely upon the faculty to find ways to serve our students during this crisis. The human touch that comes with remote synchronous delivery can be very important for students. We have proven we can do this. We went from a small percentage of on-line delivery to 100% tele-learning in 2 ½ weeks. We should celebrate that. We need to continue to figure out how to maintain student engagement and "high touch" experiences even with remote delivery. The response of the CSU to this crisis has led to the Chancellor feeling an even stronger sense of community within the CSU than before. **Note: you may wish to encourage your colleagues to tune into the Chancellor's BOT report next Tuesday at 10:00. He will be addressing our response to the COVID-19 pandemic** (<https://www2.calstate.edu/csu-system/board-of-trustees/Pages/agenda.aspx>).

3. **Luoluo Hong, Associate Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs & Enrollment Management** Reported on the Title IX changes which DOE announced yesterday. There is already a task force working on a response. (Note: campuses may impose stricter standards.) The definition of sexual harassment has changed to require both egregious and repeated behavior. Campuses may still have higher bars for evidence. Stalking and similar behaviors are now included in the language. Mandatory reporting requirements have been relaxed. A single investigator model (one person handles all parts of the process) is no longer allowed, but the CSU has been moving away from this model. Unofficial off-campus activities and study abroad are no longer covered under this policy. The CSU may continue to adhere to "higher" standards. Parties are now allowed to cross-examine. This could pose expense if parties have third parties (such as attorneys) be their representatives for cross-examination. Federal pandemic emergency grants to students were outlined. The CSU is attempting to get relief to all students, even those that are not covered in these categories. Students will be allowed to defer their admission to the CSU.
4. **Charles Toombs, CFA President** CFA has endeavored to communicate consistently during the COVID pandemic. CFA is focusing on the health and safety of faculty and

students. Working from home has some adverse consequences for our faculty (ergonomic, etc.). They are opposed to privatization of higher education. Academic freedom and intellectual property must be protected. Lecturer benefits or COBRA protections need to be provided. Needed training should be compensated for those participating. Social justice, equity and inclusion need to continue to be guiding values. We need more mental health counselors. The CSU should meet professional standards (1 counselor per 1500 students). We would like a freeze on management hiring. Faculty members considered at high risk and those living with people at high risk should be allowed to teach remotely in the fall. We are concerned about lecturers who may be in precarious finance positions.

- 5. EVC Loren Blanchard** Dr. Blanchard began by thanking the ASCSU and the faculty for their efforts to quickly transition to new forms of delivery. He has heard many stories from students and faculty about how much our efforts to continue providing a quality education during the crisis have meant to the students. He is proud of, and grateful for, the efforts and sacrifices the faculty have made to continue to serve students. The first ever virtual BOT meeting (in March) went relatively well. The doctorate in occupational therapy received final approval. On Tuesday, the Board will discuss a proposed change to student residency requirements and the Ethnic Studies requirement. The Ethnic Studies proposal contains some flexibility in campus implementation and recommends implementation through local campus curricular processes. If passed, more specific implementation details will be included in an Executive Order. We plan to work with ASCSU in crafting that Executive Order. This would be the first major structural change to general education in 40 years. The economic outlook is bleak. The Chancellor's Council (including vice-chancellors) are meeting 3 times a week with campus presidents to plan and respond. Things are changing rapidly and there is little existing information to guide us in making decisions. The federal pandemic relief aid (>\$500m) is very welcome. We are attempting to use existing campus monies to provide increased aid to international and undocumented students who are ineligible to receive these funds. We are waiving testing requirements for this year's class of freshman after consultation with the ASCSU Executive Committee and campus faculty. Next year's admissions process will also involve some difficult issues, perhaps also subsequent years. We are working to find ways for graduates in areas requiring licensure to complete their requirements. We think we have solved the issue for nurses and are working on education credentials. Students wish to return to clinical settings. This may pose some liability issues—a liability waiver might be required to protect campuses. We have had requests to use campus spaces to assist in addressing the pandemic. We are looking into ways we might help. We continue to look at the many financial issues we may be facing. We are continuously looking at revising deadlines, including the student intent to enroll deadline. Our biggest challenge is making decisions relative to modes of delivery for the fall. We need to balance educational issues with safety issues. Those with diabetes and heart disease may be the most vulnerable of all populations. We often don't know who have these underlying conditions. Students and faculty with these conditions probably cannot be allowed to return to campus for fear of compromising their health. Dr. Blanchard expressed special thanks to outgoing Chair Nelson and to the ASCSU. Dr. Blanchard will follow up with Provosts and the English Council regarding the GVAR testing requirement to stress that we are only taking temporary measures to facilitate student progress. Campus guidance regarding

instructional modalities and safety measures will be forthcoming soon. We are very concerned about a return of COVID coupled with the flu in the fall, a potentially much more deadly combination. No guidance on class size to the campuses is anticipated. Conversations about the use of student evaluations during alternative delivery in RTP considerations are being had on many campuses.

6. **ERFSA President Barry Pasternack** ERFSA cancelled their April meeting. They are continuing to negotiate for discounted travel, insurance, etc. All members are eligible to receive a free Guide to Investing for Those Over Fifty from Charlese Schwab (normally costs \$30). The ERFSA website has many valuable resources for retirees/those planning to retire. <http://csuerfa.org/> The ERFSA newsletter can be found at <https://www.csuerfsa.org/index.php/the-csu-erfsa-reporter>
  
7. **Edward Hudson, Chief Information Security Officer** addressed several topics. Privacy policies and use policies have been consolidated and are largely unchanged. They are working on revising other policies to better support our mission and the work we do while maintaining protections. Privacy, FERPA and virtual instruction issues have been taking up a lot of IT's time and focus during the pandemic. Zoom has been a good partner as usage has dramatically increased both for the CSU and other users. Encryption and privacy are being improved with new and improved Zoom features. We have had several faculty members phished to gain access to some secure academic databases to steal intellectual property. Russia and China are the worst actors in terms of theft of intellectual property. North Korea, Iran, and organized crime as a whole are also among the worst actors. Training is important. These actors are trying to compromise student devices and accounts to gain access to military and critical industry information as students graduate and take jobs in these industries. Phishing continues to be an issue across campuses and in the CO. All vendors used by the CSU, including Zoom, are required to store our user data on U.S. located servers. We have very strong agreements forbidding the use of user data for any commercial or other purpose.

### **2020-21 ASCSU Election Results—Congratulations!!**

Chair: Rob Collins (SF State)

Vice Chair: Darlene Yee-Melichar (SF State)

Secretary: Beth Steffel (CSUSB)

Member-at-Large: David Speak (Cal Poly Pomona)

Member-at-Large: Nola Butler-Byrd (SDSU)