

<http://www.calstate.edu/csuo-system/faculty-staff/academic-senate>

**ASCSU Plenary Draft Minutes
September 2 - 3, 2021
CSU Office of the Chancellor Zoom**

Thursday, September 2, 2021 – 9:00 noon to 5:00 p.m. (Virtual)

ASCSU New Senator Orientation 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.

Senate Social - 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Friday, September 3, 2021 – 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (Virtual)

Moving Beyond Bias (MBB) Training 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. (Virtual)

ROLL CALL

(**Bakersfield**) Millar, Martinez; (**Channel Islands**) Grzegorzczuk, Pereira; (**Chico**) Boyd, Ford; (**Dominguez Hills**) Norman, Talamante; (**East Bay**) Glass, Wu; (**Fresno**) Jenkins, Schlievert; (**Fullerton**) Matz, Milligan, Stambough; (**Humboldt**) Burkhalter, Pachmayer; (**Long Beach**) Janousek, Klink, Soni; (**Los Angeles**) Bezdecny, Riggio; (**Maritime**) Isakson, Tsai; (**Monterey Bay**) Leuzinger, Lopez-Littleton; (**Northridge**) Ricks, Sussman, Swenson; (**Pomona**) Speak, Urey; (**Sacramento**) Hamilton, Holl, Van Gaasbeck; (**San Bernardino**) Groen, Steffel; (**San Diego**) Butler-Byrd, Csomay, Ornatowski; (**San Francisco**) Collins, Gerber, Yee-Melichar; (**San José**) Curry, Rodan, Van Selst; (**San Luis Obispo**) Laver, Rein; (**San Marcos**) Barsky, Pellicia; (**Sonoma**) Ostroff, Senghas; (**Stanislaus**) Filling, Nakano; (**ERFSA**) Schutte

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

With a quorum being present, the meeting was called to order and Chair Collins welcomed the body.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Approved

APPROVAL OF THE MAY 13-14, 2021 MINUTES

[Approved](#)

PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS

New senators were introduced to the body.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE: CAMPUS CONCERNS & COVID-19

The time was well spent on a heartfelt conversation about how campuses are addressing repopulation. Several deficiencies were noted and campuses were encouraged to share best practices with their colleagues in the spirit of overcoming the challenges.

ASCSU GROUP ZOOM PHOTO

A photo was taken of the new senate with screen shots of each page of the Zoom meeting.

REPORTS

[Chair – Robert Keith Collins](#)

Standing committees

[Academic Affairs \(AA\) – Simon Rodan, Chair](#)

It is with deep humility that I offer my report on the Academic Affairs committee's first meeting of the 2021/22 academic year.

The committee's business fell into four categories: reports, a discussion of priorities for the coming year, a meeting with members of the Council on Ethnic Studies steering committee, and a discussion of issues of possible resolutions.

Let me begin with reports; several liaison reports were tendered in written form (Summer Arts Advisory Council, the Chief Information Officer [CIO] Council, and the Institute of Teaching & Learning [ITL] Advisory Board Report.

Turing to reports from the Chancellor's Office (CO), Assistant Vice Chancellor. Minor reported that the Graduation Initiative (GI) 2025 Advisory Committee had concluded its work and recommended no changes in program goals. He noted that problems being encountered in closing the achievement gap were not new and which was behind the Advisory Committee's call for concerted collective action. He expected a more granular focus on progress moving forward to better understand differences in outcomes which were not related to the resources allocated to addressing the problem. He also noted that powerful degree planning tools were not being as widely utilized as might be hoped which may be impeding progress to degree completion. There are also issues with what is flagged to students and advisors; for instance, they may not be alerted when students sign up for courses that are not needed to make progress to degree completion or when the drop courses on a critical path to completion. He mentioned that some campuses were piloting providing faculty with more detailed information about students in their classes at the start of the semester, such as their course taking history and information on their prior academic performance. The committee noted that this may be problematic as research has shown that outcomes may be strongly influenced by an instructors' priors

and such information may lead to a self-fulfilling prophesy. Dr Minor mentioned three other matters; an initiative to encourage campuses to prioritize the allocations of resources for class scheduling before other projects such as infrastructure; a continuing focus on students' basic needs and increased attention into the underlying issues with high Drop/Fail/Withdrawal (DFW) courses that may be bottlenecks to degree completion.

Associate Vice Chancellor Alison Wrynn discussed several issues in a wide-ranging discussion with the committee; first was the implications of Assembly Bill (AB) 927 and the processes for dealing with potential overlaps in degrees offered in the California Community Colleges (CCC) and the CSU. Ultimately, with input from CSU faculty, resolution would be between the two systems' chancellors. The committee considered this a small but significant improvement on the earlier status quo in which there was little the CSU could do if the CCC proposed program that overlapped significantly with programs already offered in the CSU. On course modality, she noted that prior to COVID-19 a very small percentage of classes were taught on-line; during the pandemic almost all were; and where we end up when the dust settles is hard to say, but it will not be a top down number, but rather determined campus by campus, and discipline by discipline, based on needs. Western Association of Schools & Colleges (WASC) requirements and the Department of Education's definition of an online course all played into the eventual new equilibrium. She noted that some campuses are facing significant enrollment challenges and that AB 927 will potentially exacerbate them. There was some discussion of the Assembly Select Committee on the Master Plan for Higher Education's report "Keeping the Promise" and the possibility of future legislative reorganization of California's higher education system. On the issue of changing Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR), a report from the CO task force looking into GWAR is due soon; an issue of concern is that meeting the requirement by examination is seen as inequitable. Finally, Dr. Wrynn noted that the budget now included an additional \$16 million in recurring base funding for Ethnic Studies and that the three bills - AB 927, AB 928 and AB 1111 - were all expected to pass into law.

Turning to priorities for the coming year, the committee briefly discussed a summary of prior resolutions brought forward from the ASCSU's Academic Affairs Committee (AA) since 2005 and whether it was worth following up on any of their recommendation. As to the current year's priorities, a list of possible items of concern were discussed including:

- Ethnic Studies course reviewing
- AB 927 (CCC 4-year degrees)
- AB 928 (Transfer rationalization)
- Pedagogy post COVID19 - mix of modalities experiences - changing face of General Education (GE)
- GWAR
- Commendation for faculty work during the pandemic

- Project rebound (funding and website)
- Learning Management Systems (LMS) - budget for training and time for migration
- Shared governance and modality
- Legislative interference
- Sustainability issues
- Mental health
- Campus climate
- Working with campus senates
- Zoom meetings
- High unit majors
- Access to data (GI 2025)
- Academic dishonesty
- Ethical investing of CSU cash reserves
- Student perspectives through the eyes of a counselor/ombudsperson
- Advising tools

The committee has not reached a consensus on which of these to prioritize; work on narrowing the focus is ongoing.

The committee had another productive dialog with members of the Council on Ethnic Studies (CES) Steering Committee, Drs. Monteiro, Karenga, and Pizaro. The CES was concerned that, on some campuses, Ethnic Studies faculty were not involved in the regular curricular approval process for GE Area F courses. There was extended discussion of the nature of the disciplinary specialization of Ethnic Studies and the importance of having Ethnic Studies faculty and departments involved in the process. Members of the committee shared their own campus' processes for Area F course GE approval, noting that all courses are reviewed by departmental curriculum committees before being sent to the campus General Education Advisory Committee (GEAC) for approval as a GE Area F course; and in all cases discussed, campuses relied on Ethnic Studies faculty to provide disciplinary expert input into all Area F courses being considered. It was the sense of the committee that as far as many of its members was aware, Ethnic Studies faculty members were directly involved at two different points in the regular GE course approval process. Nevertheless, more information will be sought. The CES steering committee elections are to be held in October of 2021.

Finally, several possible resolutions were considered. The committee chose not to move forward on any at this time, but to gather additional information before bringing them to the body, instead.

[Academic Preparation and Education Programs \(APEP\) – Rick Ford, Chair](#)

The very hard working yet most fun ASCSU committee covered a lot of ground in their first meeting of the academic year 2021/22.

After welcoming new liaisons and members we dove into a packed agenda that engaged us in several enlightening conversations and an impressive slate of actions:

We discussed the fall 2021 CO leadership retreat, the GEAC meeting the previous day, CO responses to our spring resolutions and we reviewed and formally approved our annual APEP report from 2020/21. This generated a laundry list of substantive issues including:

- Changing admissions standards;
- Area F approval processes;
- Chancellor office responses to spring resolutions sponsored by APEP;
- Changes to International Baccalaureate curriculum and testing;
- Education Deans' Statement;
- B4 Guidelines Adoption;
- Responses to AB 130, AB 927, AB 928, AB 1111

With the help of CO liaison AVC Jeff Gold and invited guest Assistant Vice Chancellor James Minor we engaged in a lengthy discussion about the highlights and takeaways of the WestEd reports covering outcomes from Executive Order (EO) 1110.

Applying life-saving triage principles to these many issues, we focused attention on those most time sensitive. Our actions included providing critical feedback to CO liaison Marquita Grenot-Scheyer regarding an informal workgroup and their meeting summary concerning implementation of AB 130 that passed into law earlier this summer. Our input included a recommendation to add 3 faculty, as determined by the ASCSU Executive Committee to that informal workgroup. We also received from Assistant Vice Chancellor Grenot-Scheyer a formal statement from the system Education Deans regarding freedom of content and pedagogy as well as information on Gates foundation funding and associated next steps to be taken by the CSU Learning lab.

Finally, APEP completed initial drafts on three resolutions that will be coming to the full senate as first readings:

“Acknowledgement of Changes to Math Requirements in International Baccalaureate (IB) programs”

This resolution brings to light the need for timely action to respond to changes in IB curriculum and testing. Credit by exam for IB mathematics will need attention and certification.

“Support for CSU General Education (GE) System Office Review Standards for Area F (Ethnic Studies) Submissions”

This resolution is intended to provide amplification of the imperative that all courses - particularly those submitted for review by the CCCs - meet 3 of the 5 Ethnic Studies core

competencies.

And lastly “**Support for the ‘CSU Education Deans’ Statement in Support of Culturally Sustaining, Equity Driven, and Justice Focused Pedagogies**”

Systemwide Deans of Colleges of Education have gone on record opposing restrictions on equity-minded pedagogy and content that have unfortunately been occurring around the country. This resolution calls for the ASCSU to recognize, endorse, and distribute the Deans’ statement.

[Faculty Affairs \(FA\) – Irene Matz, Chair](#)

Colleagues, it is my honor to chair the Faculty Affairs Committee following in the HUGE shoes of Senator and former FA Chair Norman.

We are fortunate to have many returning members who have the experience and history of this most important committee to lead us forward. In the midst of this pandemic, our resolutions are critical in supporting faculty in their efforts maintaining (as much as possible) the safety and health of our students, as well as their own.

Our meeting began with the traditional sharing of campus updates. Hearing the voices of our senators across campuses gives us the opportunity to listen to the issues, offer our input, and recognize the positive policies and practices throughout the CSU system. Conversations, although unique to campuses, held similarities, as well. Mostly, the concerns encompassed repopulations – the modalities that could not be changed, compromised health issues, and inconsistencies with gender and minorities in addressing their issues and the immediacy of questions. These concerns have given us ideas for our resolutions that appear most imperative in resolve and action.

We are fortunate to have the Chancellor’s Office liaisons who gave an update of their offices and an opportunity for questions. Ms. Tammy Kenber, Associate Vice Chancellor for Human Resources Management (new to the committee) discussed faculty diversity, the program Moving Beyond Bias (MBB), and its value. A few of the committee members have attended these sessions, and there was a variety of comments regarding their experience.

Dr. Ganesh Raman, Associate Vice Chancellor for Research & Initiatives (returning to our committee) discussed the federal grants and the support of undergraduate students who are motivated to pursue a doctoral degree; our scholarships would give them this support. Dr. Raman is presenting his information on research and students’ success to the Board of Trustees (BOT). We look forward to hearing about his feedback from the BOT.

California Faculty Association (CFA) President Toombs joined us as a guest speaker and gave a thorough report of the upcoming and present issues and faculty concerns. His comments mirror the report given at our Plenary. We are hopeful that he will be a regular guest at our meetings.

Some of our topics proposed for the year include:

- Defining units received by tenured/tenure-track faculty for service (i.e., SET units or the 3 WTUs we receive each semester);
- Disciplinary actions within the CSU with the goal of establishing due process for faculty;
- Supporting supervision of student research, scholarly, and creative activities in the CSU (including fair compensation for faculty for this work);
- Administrative push to capture mode of instruction;
- Need for CO to bargain with CFA toward a fair contract;
- Academic Freedom;
- Workload associated with accommodating students who are unable to participate in Face-to-face or hybrid instruction;
- Responses to COVID-19 and the Delta variant;
- Repopulation – modalities, vaccinations;
- Mental health concerns for both students, faculty, and staff;
- Voices for non-tenured track faculty in the CSU;
- Faculty workload aligning with Retention, Tenure, and Promotion (RTP) expectations; and
- Diversity – hires, retention, inclusivity.

We plan on collaborating with other committees knowing the strength and value of more voices in creating resolutions and include all elements and concerns. We plan to collaborate with the ASCSU Fiscal & Governmental Affairs Committee (FGA) on a resolution for mental health for students, faculty and staff.

We completed three resolutions for the September 2-3, 2021 Plenary and ask for waivers because of the urgency of these issues.

1. **“Academic Freedom and Teaching Modality in the COVID-19 Pandemic”**, AS-3499-21/FA
2. **“Suspension of Mandatory Peer Observations of Instruction and Student Evaluations for Academic Year 2021/22”** AS-3500-21/FA
3. **“Continued Accommodations and Flexibility in the Time of COVID-19”**, AS-3501-21/FA

We plan to invite CO representatives to our meeting, as well as other community members, to share our work and listen to their insights and perceptions on current issues and urgent items.

[Fiscal & Governmental Affairs \(FGA\) – Elizabeth Boyd, Chair](#)

New and returning FGA members welcomed one another to the committee with a game of popcorn and favorite ice cream/gelato/sorbet flavors. Members shared campus

repopulation status and other relevant issues.

Members dove into an overview of FGA committee and member roles, responsibilities, and timeline of work. Legislative Specialist & Senator Jerry Schutte provided a detailed orientation to legislative and budgetary resources, which dovetailed into a comprehensive presentation on state and CSU budget resources by Executive Budget Director & FGA CO Liaison Jeni Kitchell. Assistant Vice Chancellor Institutional Research & Analyses (and FGA CO Liaison) Ed Sullivan provided data and analyses which supplemented the orientation.

Members discussed implications and logistics around the passage of budget trailer bills, particularly AB 130 and the intrusion into faculty curriculum for single subject credentialing.

FGA met with CFA Liaison & Senator Steven Filling who provided an update on legislation for which CFA rendered a formal position. FGA members look forward to strengthening our relationship with CFA in the coming year.

Members heard a report from FGA Chair (yours truly) on summer activities, including a brief overview of potential FGA priorities from the ASCSU/CO Leadership Retreat. FGA formally approved the Academic Year 2020/21 Annual Report and commended former FGA Chair Hoven-Stohs & committee for a tremendous amount of work last year.

Within the context of FGA's role and responsibility in the ASCSU, and notwithstanding the close monitoring of legislative bills and budgetary developments throughout the year, FGA members split into breakout rooms to brainstorm and develop FGA's priorities for the upcoming Academic Year. The list was comprehensive; an excerpt from the list is as follows:

- Determining best mechanisms for proactive work with legislators and staffers prior to legislative bill creation including both strategically planned legislator visits to campuses and electronic forms of advocacy.
- An update to FGA responsibilities in the Bylaws, which would build on equity, diversity, and inclusion discussions held last year.

Drafting Resolutions:

- Refresh FGA & ASCSU legislative positions as currently utilized per AS-3148-13/FGA.
- Promote mental health & wellness - counselors, staff/faculty resources.
- On a stable and sustainable budget for the CSU system, including the ASCSU.
- Financial aid reform which includes total cost of attendance.
- Equitable funding between the CCC and CSU.
- Promotion of fiscal transparency across the CSU campuses.
- Collaboration with standing committees and other organizations on future communications.

Members identified interest in contributing to subsets of priorities and expect to begin progress on resolutions prior to the October interim meetings.

FGA extends its gratitude to FGA's Executive Committee Liaison and Senator David Speak for his comprehensive debrief on the business of Executive Committee. FGA members anxiously await results for several legislative bills, including AB 928, and look forward to updates from Legislative Specialist and Senator Schutte who is in for the long game listening to legislative sessions extending into the holiday weekend.

CSU Faculty Trustee – Romey Sabalius

- Faculty Trustee Sabalius expressed his thanks to the ASCSU for placing his name on the governor's desk as one of two selected from the seven finalists.
- He assured us of his solid effectiveness. The next meeting will be online. Trust in him has grown over time as new faculty trustees start out with some suspicion.
- Now he has roles of responsibility, and he is senior to 2/3 of the Board members. He will serve as a mentor to an in-coming trustee. He has signed up for 8 campus visits in fall semester and will request a meeting with the Academic Senate, Statewide senators and CFA at each campus he visits.
- He will continue to schedule TrusTea time to socialize. He encourages new senators to use this time to share their ideas and concerns.

Other committees and committee liaisons:

[General Education Advisory Committee \(GEAC\)](#) – Mark Van Selst, Chair

SPEAKERS

Sylvia A. Alva – Executive Vice Chancellor, Academic & Student Affairs

- Susan Phillips is the Interim replacement for LuoLuo Hong
- Rethinking enrollment management beginning with admissions
- Thanked us for our responses to repopulation.
- CSU Employees' Union (CSUEU) has supported the vaccination process.
- Expectation that faculty, staff and students wear face masks.
 - Working on accommodation for those who read lips, play wood instruments.
- Working intentionally around legislation that will impact the CSU
 - Lean into some of the angst that contribute to legislators running with a student story
 - Reflect on where have we been slow to respond?
- Was drawn to the leadership position because of the Chancellor's bold vision
- She is preparing for her first Board of Trustees meeting
- Policy introduced around Credit for Prior Learning

- Scholarship and discovery update (noting innovative methods used during the pandemic)
- Update on Graduation Initiative at the midpoint
- Chair Collins read a [commendation to Executive Vice Chancellor Alva](#)

Joseph I. Castro – CSU Chancellor

- Thanked the ASCSU for our hard work. There is no handbook for our current task
- Keep health and safety at the forefront of our plans
- Hopeful CFA will approve vaccination requirement
- Best budget since 1984 evidence that when the CSU works together, we are unstoppable
- New budget will be bold and requesting a \$550-700 million increase
- 9,000 new students will be allocated to highest demand campuses
- Sent a letter to Berman that the CSU will support AB 928
- We have the opportunity to streamline the transfer system, and this will help deserving students, highlighting importance of the faculty role in the University of California (UC), CCC and CSU systems

Charles Toombs – President, California Faculty Association (CFA), Liaison Report

- Reminder to vote in the recall election. CFA position is to vote no
- Bargaining will continue as our contract was extended to 9/30
- It seems the CFA is far apart on salary and job security and is waiting on academic freedom response
- CFA will be bringing meetings to campus
- A new faculty designation proposed. CFA has several questions
- Repopulation varies by campus
 - The percentage of classes held face-to-face seems to be high
 - There are concerns about administrative accommodation of faculty requests
 - Next Tuesday Chapter presidents are meeting to provide an update
- Expect CFA will sign off on the vaccination requirement. The vast majority of members are in favor of this
 - However, there are concerns about verification of vaccination status on campuses and how data will be protected in light of the Chico State data breach

Jerald Schutte – CSU-ERFSA Liaison

- The Chief Financial Officer (CFO) resigned and there are two openings on the Board
- They are watching the 85% increase in long-term care costs

- We are reminded that faculty in the Faculty Early Retirement Program (FERP) can join along with retired annuitants
- The Small Grant program is open

Fabiola Moreno Ruelas – CSSA Liaison Report

- Ms. Moreno Ruelas is a 4th year student at San Diego State majoring in Political Science and is happy to be our liaison
- She appreciated the retreat and the CSUnity meeting to begin planning their agenda for this year
- Several of their priorities match with those of the ASCSU and ASCSU is called upon to follow their example and take up protection of students on the basis of caste

Jose Solache – Alumni Council Liaison

- As a past leader of CSU Dominguez Hills he expressed his appreciation to represent the California State University (CSU) system as a part of the Alumni Council. He runs the Chamber of Commerce for Lakewood and is a past School Board member of Lynwood Unified and current member of the Lynwood City Council. Feel free to reach out to him via social media
- He is interested in the measures we are taking to ensure the safety of students, staff and faculty during the pandemic. He enjoys the advocacy for our system in Sacramento working together with the ASCSU as one family

Ryan Storm – Assistant Vice Chancellor, System Budget

- The presentation was supplemented by slides which focused on the State of California's economic outlook and covered three topics:
 1. What's known
 2. Emerging issues
 3. Potential Content of 2022-23 budget request

MOVING BEYOND BIAS (MBB) TRAINING

The ASCSU continued its MBB training Friday morning.

COMMENDATIONS

The ASCU commended the following individuals by reading the resolutions approved below.

Commendation for Interim Executive Vice Chancellor

[AS-3502-21/EX](#)

Fred E. Wood, Ph.D.

Interim Executive Vice Chancellor Wood was unable to attend for personal reasons.

Approved by Acclamation

Commendation for Executive Vice Chancellor Sylvia A. Alva

Executive Vice Chancellor (Academic and Student Affairs) Alva was recognized after her report (see above) and expressed her appreciation for the Senate's gesture.

[AS-3504-21/EX](#)

Approved by Acclamation

Commendation for Associate Vice Chancellor LuoLuo Hong, Ph.D

Associate Vice Chancellor (Student Affairs & Enrollment Management) Hong was recognized and expressed her appreciation for inviting her to receive the commendation.

[AS-3506-21/EX](#)

Approved by Acclamation

Commendation for Senator Catherine Nelson

ASCSU Immediate Past Chair Nelson was recognized and expressed her appreciation for the recognition and the poem and encouraged us to keep fighting to make a difference.

[AS-3508-21/Sonoma Del.](#)

Approved by Acclamation

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Continued Accommodations and Flexibility in the Time of COVID-19 Pandemic

[AS-3501-21/FA](#)

Approved

**THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS WERE INTRODUCED FOR FIRST READING
CONSIDERATION:**

Academic Freedom and Teaching Modality in the COVID-19 Pandemic

[AS-3499-21/FA](#)

Suspension of Mandatory Peer Observations of Instruction and Student Evaluations for Ay 2021-22

[AS-3500-21/FA](#)

Acknowledgment of Changes to Math Requirements in International Baccalaureate Programs

[AS-3503-21/APEP](#)

Support for General Education (GE) System Office Review Standards for Area F (Ethnic Studies)

[AS-3505-21/ APEP](#)

Support for the CSU Education Deans' Statement in Support of Culturally Sustaining, Equity Driven, and Justice Focused Pedagogies

[AS-3507-21/ APEP](#)

ADJOURNMENT (3:25 P.M.)