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Telephone: (562) 951-4020
Fax: (562) 951-4949

Faculty Trustee Report

CSU Board of Trustees Meeting – March 21-23, 2022

Hereby I respectfully submit a summary of the Board of Trustees meeting. My report is largely based on the agenda materials provided to the trustees and to the public, on my personal notes, my memory, and a partial review of the archived livestream of the meeting accessible at <https://www.calstate.edu/csu-system/board-of-trustees/past-meetings/2022/Pages/march-21-23-2022.aspx>.

I tried my best to accurately reflect the deliberations, and I hope to have quoted correctly and paraphrased in the spirit of the speakers' and presenters' intentions. If you notice any inaccuracy or misrepresentation, please let me know (Romey.Sabalius@sjsu.edu).

After the resignation of Chancellor Castro in February, the Board had a very intense meeting, which resulted in a long report (18 pages).

I presume that the topics of the greatest interest to the faculty would be the Reports from the Chair and Acting Chancellor (item 3.b/c); the Discontinuation of Standardized Examinations for CSU Undergraduate Admission and the Authorization of New Doctoral Programs in the CSU (item 7.d/e); the Financial Status Update [Reserves] (item 9.b); and the State Legislative Update (item 13.a).

I wish all of us a less eventful rest of the academic year,

Romey Sabalius

San José, CA – April 15, 2022

Faculty Trustee Report

CSU Board of Trustees Meeting: March 21-23, 2022

On March 21-23, the CSU Board of Trustees meeting was held in-person at the Chancellor's Office in Long Beach.

On Monday, March 21, at 1:00 pm,

The **Board of Trustees** convened in **Closed Session** on *Executive Personnel Matters*.

After interviewing the finalists for the position of Interim Chancellor, the Board unanimously decided to hire former President of CSU Northridge Jolene Koester until a permanent Chancellor will be appointed (see item 8.d).

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.

On Tuesday, March 22, at 9:00 am,

1. The **Board of Trustees** convened in **Closed Session** to discuss *Executive Personnel Matters* and to receive a report on *Pending Litigation*.
2. The **Committee on Collective Bargaining** deliberated in **Closed Session**.
[Note: According to California Education Code § 66602 (c2) the Faculty Trustee "shall not participate on any subcommittee of the board responsible for collective bargaining negotiations."]

The **Public Meeting** of the **Board of Trustees** was called to order at 11:00 am.

3. The meeting of the **Board of Trustees** began with
 - a. **Public Comment.**

Approximately 40 speakers provided their input in person or live via audio. Additionally, comments were submitted in writing.

Many speakers expressed their concerns about Title IX violations in the CSU. Some lamented the lack of transparency and accountability (among others Heidi Reggio, Statewide Academic Senator from Cal State LA), and Charles Toombs, President of the *California Faculty Association (CFA)*, called for a "legislative investigation." Repeated criticism was voiced of generous transition packages for top executives who violated Title IX regulations.

Representatives of labor unions, predominantly the *CSU Employees Union (CSUEU)*, called for higher wages and better working conditions.

[Note: A new collective bargaining agreement with CFA was ratified at the Board's January meeting]

At the conclusion of the Public Comment period, *Students for Quality Education (SQE)* stood up and loudly chanted various slogans before marching out of the auditorium (e.g., “you are not listening,” “university police does not protect us,” “stand with Teamsters,” “you reward those who don’t protect students,” “all of you are corrupted,” “you hired a Chancellor who protected abusers,” “you are white and wealthy people” [Note: more than half of the appointed trustees have a minority background], “support victims,” and “help students.”)

After a lunch break, the **Board of Trustees** received the following **Reports**:

b. **Lillian Kimbell**, *Chair of the Board of Trustees*,

announced the following immediate actions in response to Chancellor Castro’s resignation after revelation of mishandling workplace complaints while he was President at Fresno State:

- “The CSU shall initiate an independent external investigation to review how administrators responded to reports and complaints of Title IX violations at California State University, Fresno. The CSU shall retain the Law Offices of Mary Lee Wegner to lead this investigation. The Board of Trustees directs that this investigation will be completed within 90-120 days or less.
- The CSU shall initiate an independent assessment of Title IX practices across all 23-campuses and the chancellor’s office. The CSU has retained the firm of Cozen O’Connor to conduct a comprehensive Title IX systemwide assessment.
- The chancellor shall initiate systemwide policy development on 1) retreat rights and 2) letters of recommendation. The recommended policies will be presented to the board for review and approval.
- Effective immediately the CSU shall cease granting executive transition rights for newly hired executives until such time as the board considers recommendations of a task force and takes further action. The chancellor shall identify and convene a task force to review the Executive Transition Program. Results and recommendations will be reported to the trustees in May 2022.”

Chair Kimbell further announced that an Interim Chancellor has been identified and will be announced during tomorrow’s session (item 8.d).

c. **Steve Relyea**, *Acting Chancellor*,

praised the reforms outlined by Chair Kimbell. “We will seize this opportunity to become a national model for Title IX innovation, accountability, and response, as we strengthen our training, our prevention, and survivor support services.”

He is pleased to report that “the vast majority of our courses systemwide are now in-person, and the vibrancy has returned to campus life.” He further noted that “last year, we celebrated the largest graduating class in the history of the CSU” (133,000) and “graduation rates are at all-time highs across the board for students from all backgrounds and every walk-of-life.” He assured the implementation and financial support for an Equity Action Plan to “close equity gaps once and for all.”

Acting Chancellor Relyea is “very encouraged that over 28,000 more applications were submitted for fall of this year compared to last fall.” He praised academic leadership, faculty, and staff for leveraging technology “to accommodate the students’ specific learning styles and fast-evolving preferences.” Furthermore, the CSU continues to advance access and equity by permanently discontinuing the use of SAT and ACT tests for admission (see item 7.d).

He noted that “the CSU inspired record levels of philanthropic support last year with more than \$553,000 million in gift receipts, and our endowment has soared past the \$2 billion mark for the first time in our history and is now valued at \$2.4 billion.” He also thanked the budget advocacy efforts of “delegations from the Chancellor’s Office and our campuses including stakeholders from the CSSA, the CSUEU, CFA, the Academic Senate, and the Alumni Council,” who have “met with 112 of the 120 state legislators.”

Acting Chancellor Relyea further reported good news on the federal level, such as “a \$400 increase to the maximum Pell Grant, funding increases for nearly all of the CSU’s federal priority programs, community project funding ranging from \$250,000 to \$5 million at 13 different Cal State campuses, and –very significantly– \$380 million for our new, state-of-the-art training vessel for Cal Maritime.” He regards these as “signs of an undeniable and accelerating positive momentum.”

- d. **Robert Collins**, *Chair of the Academic Senate CSU (ASCSU)*, shared that “consultation and discussion within the ASCSU [...] reveal that our recent scandal has [...] triggered distrust in the ability of the CSU to implement Title IX practices that advocate for, and protect, victims from bullying and misconduct within our system [...].”

Chair Collins reported that leaders of the ASCSU continue to work with the the Intersegmental Committee of the Academic Senates (ICAS) on a common General Education pathway and the implementation of AB 928. “Central in this discussion were concerns raised by faculty throughout the system on the pedagogical importance of critical thinking, oral communications, and lifelong learning.”

He summarized some of the 27 resolutions that the ASCSU discussed during its plenary in March, and in closing he noted “that the ASCSU continues to monitor campus repopulation concerns raised by faculty and the implementation of the new CSU Ethnic Studies Requirement, through our Academic Affairs Committee, so that campus concerns that arise during implementation can be discussed and addressed.”

- e. **Isaac Alferos**, *President of the California State Student Association (CSSA)*, reported that the “Systemwide Affairs Committee and Board of Directors have voted to unanimously support the recommended amendments to Title V that would discontinue the use of standardized tests for undergraduate admission.”

While President Alferos “supports assessments across the system of Title IX practices and policies,” he strongly expressed the students’ disappointment in the “failure in leadership,” and he stated that “trust has been broken. [...] our students have been failed by our most trusted leadership and are not eager to build back together. Calls for systemwide

camaraderie and unity will fall on deaf ears as those of us who lead from the ground hold our communities close and provide space to center those most impacted.”

“The action before this board today on Title IX assessment is step one in a long process in rebuilding trust within all of our communities. I look forward to working alongside all of our systemwide leaders, trustees, presidents, faculty, and staff, to create a system worthy of our students.”

- f. **Jeremy Addis-Mills, *President of the Alumni Council***, congratulated Larry Adamson for being re-elected as Alumni Trustee [Note: the Alumni Trustee does not need to go through Senate confirmation nor requires an appointment by the Governor].

The Executive Committee of the Alumni Council continues to focus strongly on mentorship. “At least 10 campuses are offering a Professor-of-the-Day, where an alumni can be invited back to the campus to teach a class for one day, [...] At least 12 campuses are providing an alumni speaker series, at least 15 campuses have an alumni mentorship program, and many other initiatives including alumni roundtables, alumni job shadowing, and student-alumni dinners are conducted across the various campuses. [...] We are continuing conversations with the Academic Senate CSU and the California State Student Association to strengthen and build upon these programs across our campuses.”

- g. The **Board of Trustees** approved as an action item the *CSU Board of Trustees – Investigations and Systemwide Policy Assessment* as outlined by Chair Kimbell in her report. [This item was added to the agenda because of the “need for immediate action” (Kimbell)].

Several trustees ascertained their resolve to investigate and reform Title IX procedures in the CSU as well as to review current compensation policies for executives. Trustee Sabalius pointed out that this is the first Board meeting in open session since the scandal broke, and hence today is the earliest opportunity for the Board to take “swift and decisive action” with clear processes and fixed time-lines. [Note: **Closed Session** meetings on *Executive Personnel Matters* did take place and resulted in the resignation of Chancellor Castro].

Trustee Day stated that while he is “extremely proud” to serve this great institution, he is “also very disappointed and angry. We as a Board were kept in the dark and not served well by recent events and our past Chancellor. [...] We are making critical changes to our policies and practices to correct mistakes and restore confidence and trust in the system. And with today’s actions, we acknowledge the pain suffered by victims and begin the healing process as a system.”

4. The Committee on Organization and Rules

- a. approved as an action item in consent the *CSU Board of Trustees’ Meeting Dates for 2023*.

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| January 24-25, 2023 | Tuesday – Wednesday | Virtually or Chancellor’s Office |
| March 21-22, 2023 | Tuesday – Wednesday | Virtually or Chancellor’s Office |
| May 23-24, 2023 | Tuesday – Wednesday | Virtually or Chancellor’s Office |
| July 11-12, 2023 | Tuesday – Wednesday | Virtually or Chancellor’s Office |
| September 12-13, 2023 | Tuesday – Wednesday | Virtually or Chancellor’s Office |
| November 7-8, 2023 | Tuesday – Wednesday | Virtually or Chancellor’s Office |

5. **The Committee on Collective Bargaining – Open Session**

- a. approved as an action item in consent the Adoption of Initial Proposals for a Successor Collective Bargaining Agreement with Bargaining Unit 4, Academic Professionals of California (APC).

6. **The Committee on Institutional Advancement**

- a. approved as an action item the Naming of the James and Judy Rodriguez Watson College of Education at CSU San Bernardino.

“The proposed academic naming recognizes the \$8.4 million contribution by James and Judy Rodriguez Watson to Cal State San Bernardino’s College of Education. The endowed gift and irrevocable estate gift will support student scholarships and establish a new Center for STEM Education. The STEM Center will be the hub for outreach to underserved populations in the region through the teacher preparation program, with investment in career training and career readiness in the STEM fields for K-12 students. The STEM Center will include a Model STEM Exploratorium and a Teacher Residency program. The gift will also support Project Impact, a new program in the college, to recruit and prepare under-represented teachers in K-12 education. Additionally, the gift will enhance the Watson Literacy Center’s efforts in the Inland Empire by adding to the existing endowment. The naming gift will help to attract and retain faculty, facilitate student success, and supplement research in perpetuity.”

- b. approved as an action item the Naming of the Mary Levin School of the Arts at CSU Los Angeles.

“The proposed naming of the Mary Levin School of the Arts recognizes the \$10 million irrevocable estate gift from Mary Levin Cutler. This school proposes to house the departments of Art, Music, Television, Film, and Media Studies (TVFM), Theatre and Dance, and the Ronald H. Silverman Fine Arts Gallery. This gift is the largest gift in the history of Cal State LA, and “We Are LA: The Campaign for Cal State LA.” Mary Levin Cutler’s generosity to the University is underscored by her philanthropy and propelled the Campaign over the \$96 million mark. Mary has established three named endowments in addition to donating her extensive musical instrument collection to the University.”

- c. approved as an action item the Naming of Premier America Credit Union Arena at CSU Northridge.

“California State University, Northridge (CSUN) and Premier America Credit Union (PACU) are entering into a ten-year strategic partnership. Premier America Credit Union is a member-owned credit union headquartered in Chatsworth, California. Founded in 1957, Premier America has nearly 100,000 members. PACU’s Chief Executive Officer, Rudy Pereira is a CSUN graduate (Class of 1985).

PACU will be making a multi-million-dollar investment (\$8.3 million over ten years) with CSUN. In addition to the naming of the Premier America Credit Union Arena, the investment will support departments and programs across the University including Student Affairs, the Alumni Association, the Soraya Center for the Performing Arts, and Athletics.

A Campus Activity Fund will be set aside annually to provide Premier America Credit Union the flexibility to engage campus communities through a variety of events, activities, and educational opportunities.”

- d. approved as an action item the *Naming of the Edward (Ted) Taylor and Joanne Taylor Science and Engineering Building at CSU Monterey Bay.*

“The proposed naming of the facility recognizes the \$10 million gift commitment by Bruce Taylor and Taylor Farms. The gift will be used for the construction of the proposed new Science and Engineering Building. The building will accommodate growth and enrollment for students and launch the Engineering program. [...]

An innovator and business leader, Bruce Taylor has also supported the College of Education at CSUMB with a gift of \$1 Million for the Monterey Institute for English Learners program and professorship. In 2019, he was awarded an honorary doctorate in Science from CSUMB.”

- e. approved as an action item the *Honorary Naming of the Ellen Ochoa Pavilion at San Diego State University.*

“Dr. Ellen Ochoa is a distinguished San Diego State University alumna and veteran NASA astronaut. She earned an undergraduate physics degree in 1980 from San Diego State University and later earned her master’s and doctoral degrees in electrical engineering from Stanford University. In 1995, she was honored by San Diego State University as Distinguished Alumna of the Year and, in 2019, she received an honorary Doctor of Science degree in recognition of her role in space exploration and her commitment to education.

Dr. Ochoa’s accomplishments have earned both national and international recognition. She is the first female Hispanic astronaut to go into space and its first Hispanic director of the Johnson Space Center and second female leader. Dr. Ochoa was inducted into the United States Astronaut Hall of Fame in 2017 and has been recognized with NASA’s highest award, the Distinguished Service Medal, and the Presidential Distinguished Rank Award for senior executives in the federal government. [...]

Dr. Ochoa continues to make a lasting impact at San Diego State University serving as an inspirational role model for today’s youth, particularly females and underrepresented minorities who aspire to have careers in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

[...] The West Commons building, located on the main campus at San Diego State, serves as a highly frequented gathering space for faculty, students and staff. The proposed honorary naming of the Ellen Ochoa Pavilion recognizes the impact she has had and will continue to have at San Diego State University. The visible honorary naming would serve as a reminder for students of all backgrounds to break through barriers and reach for the stars.”

- f. approved as an action item the *Honorary Naming of the Charles B. Bell Jr. Pavilion at San Diego State University.*

“Dr. Charles Bell had an ambitious and notable college career having been the first African American to receive both master’s and doctorate degrees from the University of Notre Dame. He continued to have an illustrious career as a world-class mathematician-

statistician in academia and became known as one of the leading African American mathematicians of the 20th century.

In 1958, Dr. Bell became the second African American professor hired at San Diego State University, thus one of the rare Black professors at a predominantly white campus in that era. He remained at San Diego State until 1966 and then returned to the campus in 1981 as a professor of mathematical sciences until he retired in June, 1992.

Throughout his life, Dr. Bell was interested and active in African American affairs. [...] Dr. Bell leaves a lasting legacy at San Diego State University through the Charles Bell Faculty Scholar position, named for SDSU's first tenured Black faculty member. Individuals who are awarded this honor support students through the development of their academic success plans; work collaboratively with campus and community partners to further the vision of the Black Resource Center and the mission of San Diego State; and advance efforts to improve the retention, graduation and success of Black and African American students.

A hub for students, faculty and staff, the East Commons building is highly visible and centrally located on the San Diego State main campus at the end of Centennial Walkway next to the bookstore. The honorary naming of the Charles Bell Pavilion warrants special public recognition to broaden the knowledge among the campus community of who Charles 'Chuck' Bell, Jr. was and to foster his important legacy in the retention, graduation, and success of Black and African American students at San Diego State University."

7. The Committee on Educational Policy

- a. approved as an action item in consent the *Academic Planning*.

"In accordance with California State University (CSU) Board of Trustees policy established in 1963, this item summarizes the CSU academic planning process, including the long-range program planning activity that took place since January 2021. The proposed resolution approves additions and modifications to campus academic plans and the CSU Academic Master Plan."

Trustee Sabalius commented on the inconsistency of the Board's exercise of its authority. While it retains the final approval in creating and discontinuing hundreds of academic programs on all campuses (which should be the purview of the faculty and campus administration), it refuses to assume the final authority over campus-based student fees with the argument that this should be a campus-based decision and it would constitute micro-managing of the Board.

- b. received as an action item in consent the *Academic Preparation Annual Report* and approved new reporting requirements aligned with changes resulting from EO 1110.
- c. approved as an action item the *Recommended Amendment to Title 5 Regarding the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC)*.

"This action item proposes to amend Title 5 § 40405.2 Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) to align with current California State University (CSU) General Education Breadth requirements. IGETC is an alternative general education pathway that fulfills lower division general education requirements for both the California State University and University of California. On February 9, 2022, the University of

California Academic Assembly voted to approve the IGETC ethnic studies requirement that parallels the CSU GE Breadth requirement. This item proposes to include a 3 semester unit lower-division course requirement in ethnic studies in the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum requirements (40405.2) in compliance with Section 89032 of the California Education Code. This amendment would correspond with the amendment to Title 5 § 40405.1 California State University General Education – Breadth Requirements, approved by the board in November, 2020.

Assembly Bill 1460 was signed into law by Governor Newsom on August 17, 2020, and it created Section 89032 of the California Code of Regulations. In order to comply with Section 89032, Title 5 § 40405.2 must be revised to include this requirement.”

- d. approved as an action item the *Recommended Amendments to Title 5 Regarding the Discontinuation of Standardized Examinations for CSU Undergraduate Admission.*

“This action item proposes to amend Title 5 Section 40601, 40751 and 40801 to remove references to the SAT and ACT standardized entrance examinations as part of eligibility for California State University (CSU) undergraduate admission requirements.

The CSU suspended the use of standardized test scores for the 2021-22 and 2022-23 academic years for undergraduate admission due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the unavailability of examinations for prospective applicants. Preceding this temporary action, the CSU had been engaged in an ongoing discussion about admission eligibility and the role of standardized testing.

The CSU’s Admission Advisory Council (AAC) comprised of faculty, administrators and students, was asked to consider the future use of standardized testing in CSU undergraduate admission prior to the pandemic. In addition to consideration of pandemic-related hardships and concerns brought forth by PK-12 school districts and community-based organizations, the committee considered equity and fairness for prospective applicants, academic preparation, Graduation Initiative 2025 goals and extensive research on the topic of standardized testing and college admission as part of its deliberations. The AAC found that standardized tests provide negligible additional value to the CSU admission process. It observed that the negative impact of stress on students, families and high schools as well as the consistent differential tests results between students in more affluent communities relative to less affluent communities could not be ignored. Ultimately, the council recommended the permanent discontinuation of the use of standardized test scores in CSU undergraduate admissions. [...]

In lieu of an eligibility index that included standardized test scores, over the last two years CSU campuses have been calculating a Multi-Factor Admission Score (MFAS) based on a number of supplemental factors. During this interim period, CSU campuses continue to have autonomy and wide latitude in determining an admissions evaluation approach that is best suited to their enrollment management priorities and needs. Campuses ensure that “a-g” GPA and academic preparation are the most heavily weighed variables. Campuses determined their specific value scale so that each variable can be quantified, and an objective review of applicants can take place.

CSU campuses evaluated the admission factors that were available, based on admission application information, and chose a combination of factors that would work best for them. Systemwide data has shown that the use of the MFAS has not impacted the academic quality of admitted students and, in fact, supports the directional move towards an updated Minimum Eligibility Index that includes GPA augmented by other criteria.

And although GPA is a strong predictor of students' ability to be successful in college, there can be differences of opportunities across school districts. For example, the availability of honors and Advanced Placement courses can differ across school districts. This can impact the ability for students to earn a higher "a-g" GPA. Utilizing additional factors in the calculation of CSU Minimum Eligibility will provide for a more well-rounded set of variables for admission evaluation."

Various trustees expressed their gratitude for the discontinuation of standardized tests for undergraduate admission because they perceive it as a removal of a hurdle to CSU access and a contribution to greater educational equity.

- e. received as an information item a report on the Authorization of New Doctoral Programs in the CSU.

"Summary

As set forth in the 1960 California Master Plan for Higher Education and codified in the California Code of Regulations at Sections 66000-67400, the California State University (CSU) is to provide undergraduate and graduate education with a focus on bachelor's degrees, teaching credentials and master's degrees. The University of California (UC) is to provide undergraduate and graduate education through the doctoral degree, as well as graduate professional education in law, medicine, dentistry and veterinary medicine. The California Community Colleges (CCC) provide lowerdivision general education and technical education with a focus on workforce certificates, associate degrees and transfer preparation.

Recent state legislation has raised questions regarding these existing categorizations which do not apply to private colleges and universities or out-of-state universities recruiting California residents. Specifically, the CSU seeks to clarify and articulate how future doctoral programs may be developed and approved within its system and in alignment with the Master Plan to continue to meet the needs of the state in developing a highly educated workforce.

Background

Doctoral degrees, the highest earned terminal degree, can be professional or academic in nature. Academic doctoral degrees (e.g. Doctor of Philosophy or Ph.D.) focus on advancing knowledge through original research in a given academic field as well as the preparation of faculty for four-year universities. Professional doctoral degrees (e.g. Doctor of Nursing Practice or DNP) stress advancing understanding of the practical application of knowledge and skills and/or the development of advanced professional skills. Doctoral degrees typically take three to six years to complete.

Since the authoring of the California Master Plan, the CSU has been granted the authority to develop and offer joint doctoral programs with other accredited institutions of

higher education in the state, predominantly the University of California. Joint doctoral programs are created when there is a demonstrated need for a degree that is not being met by an existing Ph.D. program. Currently, there are 20 active joint Ph.D. programs and one joint Ed.D. program (established before the CSU was authorized to offer independent Ed.D. programs).

Legislature Authority for Independent Doctoral Degree Programs

Since 2005, the CSU has sought legislative authority to offer independent professional doctoral degrees in areas where there is an identified workforce or accreditation/licensure need that may not be fulfilled through existing educational opportunities in California. The impetuses for the first independent doctorate, the Ed.D., were small program sizes of the existing joint educational doctorate programs and growing demand from K-12 districts and community colleges for the development of educational leaders. Subsequent requests have focused on both accreditation (physical therapy, audiology and occupational therapy) and workforce needs (nursing). Currently, the CSU is authorized to offer the independent doctoral degrees listed below. In 2020-21, the CSU awarded 132,607 degrees, of which 19,454 were master's degrees and 597 were doctorate degrees

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| • Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) | CA Ed. Code 66040 – 66040.7 |
| • Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) | CA Ed. Code 66042 – 66042.3 |
| • Doctor of Audiology (AuD) | CA Ed. Code 66041 – 66041.1 |
| • Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) | CA Ed. Code 89280 – 89281 |
| • Doctor of Occupational Therapy (OTD) | CA Ed. Code 66043 – 66043.1” |

CSU Joint Doctoral Programs

Additionally, the CSU has the authority to offer joint doctoral programs in

- Biology
- Biomedical Engineering, Bioengineering
- Chemistry; Clinical/Community Psychology
- Communicative Disorders
- Computational Science; Ecology
- Education
- Electric and Computer Engineering
- Engineering Sciences, Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering
- Evolutionary Biology
- Geography
- Geophysics
- Mathematics and Science Education
- Public Health; Structural Engineering
- Substance Use and Abuse Studies
(all offered by San Diego State University)
- Special Education
(offered by Cal State LA)

“Potential Approaches for New Doctoral Programs

Over the past five years, a small group of campuses in the CSU have requested that the system consider seeking authority from the State to expand doctoral authority to include professional areas, such as public health, or to expand the narrow scope of the current California Code of Regulations language related to the CSU independent Ed.D. The latter request would allow the Ed.D. to be awarded outside of Educational Leadership in areas such as mental health or school psychology. Although initial consultation has been conducted with the University of California –which has in the past offered the Doctor of Public Health (DPH) on multiple campuses but now only offers it on the Berkeley campus–no final consensus has been reached on the direction for the CSU in these areas.

Simultaneously, the California Community Colleges sought and received authorization to award baccalaureate degrees. In 2014, the state authorized community colleges to offer a limited number of bachelor’s degrees on a pilot basis. Chapter 747 of 2014 (SB 850, Block) authorized up to 15 bachelor’s programs in areas not offered by CSU. This authority was made permanent and expanded by Chapter 565 (AB 927, Medina) approved by Governor Newsom in October 2021. These degrees are restricted, however, to disciplines with demonstrated regional workforce needs and that are not duplicative of CSU or UC baccalaureate degree programs. AB 927 could, perhaps provide the CSU with a roadmap on the pursuit of additional independent professional doctoral degrees.

To help inform and guide a systemwide conversation regarding the authorization of future doctoral programs in the CSU, the following two approaches have been identified for the Board of Trustees for discussion and possible consideration. These approaches can be pursued individually, concurrently or sequentially as deemed appropriate and necessary. All options ultimately would require action by the state legislature in order to revise the California Code of Regulations.

Incremental Approaches

- *Authorization of a Doctor of Public Health (DPH)*

The CSU would pursue consultation, development and fiscal planning for the authorization of a Doctor of Public Health. This exploration would be data-informed and based on established and ongoing workforce needs.

- *Expanded Doctor of Education (Ed.D.)*

The CSU would pursue the necessary steps for broader authority under the Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) beyond the current Educational Leadership focus. Such exploration would require consultation, development and fiscal planning for additional offerings in areas such as mental health or ethnic studies pedagogy. This expansion would be to develop programs that are unique in focus from the UC.

Expanded Opportunities

- *Develop Framework for Future Professional Doctorates*

The passage of AB 927 has increased discussion of the California Master Plan and its original designation of degree authorization among the UC, CSU and CCC systems. As a result, the CSU could consider pursuing a long-term consultation

framework for future professional doctorate programs that would codify the authorization process.

In addition, the continuing growth of online degree programs also has increased interest in partnering with universities outside California. As part of this approach, CSU could pursue the necessary consultation to explore opportunities for joint doctoral programs with U.S.-based regionally accredited doctoral-granting universities outside the state.

This broader, expanded approach would build on the collaborative relationships already in place among the UC and CCC systems to ensure little to no overlap in future degree offerings.

Conclusion

The primary mission of the CSU is, and will remain, undergraduate and graduate education through the master's degree. However, external factors—including changes in the state's workforce needs, discipline accreditation and licensure requirements—may require the system to consider additional options within its professional doctoral offerings.

Any such expansion, however, would require action by the state legislature. The CSU will continue to assess and pursue broader consultation with campus leaders, graduate deans, the statewide academic senate, the UC system and other stakeholders. This process will culminate in time for recommendations to be incorporated in the 2023-2024 request for board-sponsored legislation. By considering an expansion of the CSU's professional doctoral programs in a way that continues to address unmet workforce needs, the CSU will better position its students for careers in high-demand fields while continuing to provide a superior return on investment to the Golden State."

Trustee Sabalius urged campuses who want to offer doctoral degrees to secure funding for these more expensive degrees so that no other programs have to be cut. Sylvia Alva, Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, replied that while the state does not provide additional funding for doctorate programs in the CSU, it allows the imposition of much higher tuition (currently ranging from \$11,838 to \$17,192 for existing doctorates).

Several trustees declared that, despite prior hesitation, they were convinced of the necessity of doctoral programs in the CSU to satisfy workforce demands and credentialing requirements. Acting Chancellor Relyea stressed the importance to move ahead with individual doctorate programs in the short run, while working of modernizing the California Master Plan for Higher Education in the long-term perspective.

The Board adjourned for the day at 4:45 pm, and it reconvened on March 23 at 9:00 am.

8. **The Committee on University and Faculty Personnel**

- a. approved as an action item in consent the CSU Salary Schedule.

“The CSU Salary Schedule was updated in January 2022 due to modifications to the CSU pay scales as a result of the California minimum wage increase effective January 1, 2022.

The salary schedule also includes updates implemented due to collective bargaining agreements previously ratified by the CSU Board of Trustees in November 2021 for Unit 10 (International Union of Operating Engineers) and Unit 11 (United Auto Workers/Academic Student Employees).

The salary schedule also reflects administrative and non-substantive updates made in the CSU pay scales (e.g., abolishment of class codes, class title updates, etc.).

The CSU Salary Schedule reflects current payrates for all CSU classifications. The current and historical salary schedule(s) is posted for public viewing on the CSU Salary Schedule website at: <https://www.calstate.edu/csu-system/careers/compensation/Pages/salary-schedule.aspx>”

- b. approved as an action item the Executive Compensation for the Acting Chancellor of the CSU.

“This item recommends that Mr. Steve Relyea receive an annual salary of \$625,000 (a monthly rate of \$52,083.34) effective on February 17, 2022, the date of his appointment as acting chancellor of the California State University. Additionally, a monthly housing allowance of \$7,917 from non-state funds will be provided while serving as acting chancellor. (This is the same compensation as the former chancellor.)

Acting Chancellor Steve Relyea is currently appointed as a CSU Executive classified employee, and this will not change while serving in this temporary assignment. He will continue to receive a monthly auto allowance of \$1,000 and benefit and policy provisions provided when appointed to the position of executive vice chancellor and chief financial officer apply.”

- c. approved as an action item the Executive Compensation for the Acting Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer of the CSU.

“This item recommends that Mr. Brad Wells receive an annual salary of \$361,242 (a monthly rate of \$30,103.50) effective February 17, 2022, the date of his appointment as acting executive vice chancellor and chief financial officer. (This is the same salary as the incumbent.)

In accordance with existing policy of the California State University, Mr. Wells will receive an auto allowance of \$1,000 per month and standard benefit provisions afforded CSU Executive classification employees.

At the conclusion of this temporary assignment, he will return to his position and salary as associate vice chancellor of business and finance and the provisions of the Management Personnel Plan.”

- d. approved as an action item the Executive Compensation for the Interim Chancellor of the CSU.

“This item recommends that Dr. Jolene Koester receive an annual salary of \$625,000 (a monthly rate of \$52,083.34) effective on May 1, 2022, the date of her appointment as interim chancellor of the California State University. Additionally, a monthly housing allowance of \$7,917 from non-state funds will be provided while serving as interim chancellor. This is the same compensation as the former chancellor.

In accordance with existing policy of the California State University, the interim chancellor will receive an auto allowance of \$1,000 per month and standard benefit provisions afforded CSU Executive classification employees. The CSU will also provide reimbursement for actual, necessary and reasonable travel and relocation expenses.”

- e. the action item Executive Compensation was taken off the agenda before the meeting.

It was planned to provide “compensation adjustments due to salary assessments during presidential triennial performance reviews.” However, the Board decided during Closed Session on Tuesday not to move forward with the proposal at this time.

9. The Committee on Audit

- a. received as an information item the Status Report on Audit and Advisory Services Activities.

“This item provides an update on internal audit activities and initiatives. It also includes a status report on the 2021-2022 audit plan. Follow-up on current and past assignments is being conducted on approximately 28 completed campus reviews. [...]

Audit and Advisory Services continues to make progress on the 2021-2022 audit plan. Sixteen audits have been completed and 21 audits are currently in-process. While all audit fieldwork since the onset of the pandemic has been conducted remotely, on-campus fieldwork is set to resume in the coming month.”

- b. received as an information item the Financial Status Update.

Total receipts for the year ended June 30, 2020-21 were **\$11.8 billion** comprised as follows (in millions):

- Student tuition and fees: 3,838 (33%)
- State appropriations: 3,717 (31%)
- Bonds and notes proceeds: 1,536 (13%)
- Grants, contracts, and gifts: 1,101 (9%)
- Sales and services: 460 (4%)
- Others: 1,153 (10%)

Total expenditure for the year ended June 30, 2020-21 were **\$11.0 billion** comprised as follows (in millions):

- Salaries and wages: 3,846 (35%)
- Benefits: 1,942 (18%)
- Supplies and services: 1,562 (14%)
- Capital: 1,203 (11%)
- Student financial aid (net): 1,128 (10%)
- Debt payments: 996 (9%)
- Others: 278 (3%)

The **Operating Fund** consisting of Reserves & Designated Balances as of June 30, 2021 totaled almost **\$2 billion**.

- Short-Term Obligations: 1,110 (in millions)
- Capital: 327
- Catastrophic Events: 31
- Reserves: 531

The **Reserves for Economic Uncertainty** are the only funds that can be considered CSU savings or the system's "rainy-day-fund." The amount would cover merely 27 days of operations. Brad Wells, Acting Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer, explained that "our policy calls for a minimum of three months and a maximum of six months" of operating expenses. That would be \$1.8 billion or \$3.6 billion respectively, which is 3.5 to almost 7 times higher than the current amount.

10. The Joint Committees on Educational Policy and Campus Planning, Buildings and Grounds

- a. received as an action item the *Proposed Revision to Sustainability Goals and Policy*.

"This item requests the California State University Board of Trustees approve the proposed revisions made to the CSU sustainability policy in response to comments from trustees, students, and campus staff. It aligns with recent changes in state law and expands campus transportation planning to reduce carbon emissions. Changes since the January 2022 Board of Trustees meeting are proposed to broadly capture the vision of CSU programs and initiatives that encourage and promote diversity, equity, and inclusion. [...]"

The estimated cost to implement the board's goals is roughly \$4 billion. The cost is based on the following:

- Academic Program – continued curriculum development, research, workforce development, \$25 million
- Student Services – cost includes basic needs, affordable student housing, \$1.4 billion
- Business Operations – procurement, facilities improvements, \$2.5 billion."

In response to a question by Trustee Adamson regarding the high costs for this ambitious plan, Vy San Juan, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Capital Planning, Design and Construction, explained that the CSU will predominantly rely on state funding to cover these expenses.

Several Presidents described their agreements with local transportation agencies to provide free or reduced commuting options for students and in some cases also for faculty and staff. President Ochoa from Monterey Bay spoke about an "emissions inventory" conducted on campus, which brought to light that "only 5% of the emissions were due to vehicle fuel, 60% was from natural gas combustion, and 35% was from purchased electricity."

Overall, the trustees expressed their enthusiasm and support for the updated sustainability goals.

11. The Committee on Campus Planning, Buildings and Grounds

- a. approved the CSU Fullerton Visual Arts Complex Modernization Schematic Design.

“California State University, Fullerton proposes to modernize the historically significant Visual Arts Complex [...] The existing Visual Arts Complex is the home of the Department of Visual Arts and consists of a pedestrian-scaled grouping of six buildings designed in a simplified Mid-Century Modern architectural style. The Complex was built in 1969 and has not been expanded or substantially renovated since that time.

The original scope of the project was to renovate all six buildings in the Complex and construct a new art gallery. However, due to unexpected existing conditions and logistical challenges on tenant relocation, constructing a replacement building was analyzed as more cost-effective and energy efficient. The proposed project therefore proposes to perform limited renovations to two buildings, demolish building (F) and construct two buildings (H) and (G).”

According to President Virjee, it will be “only the second academic building to be built in the past 30 years” on the campus. The total cost will be \$70.5 million.

Trustee Sabalius is pleased to see the innovative design and the outstanding efficiency rates of this building. Yet, he wondered whether mere 17 faculty offices would be enough for a building that is designed to serve so many students, and he pleaded for sufficiently large and adequately equipped faculty offices in academic buildings.

12. The Committee on Finance

- a. received as an information item in consent the CSU Annual Debt Report.

“The SRB program provides capital financing for projects of the CSU approved by the Board of Trustees, including student housing, parking, student union, health center, continuing education facilities, certain auxiliary projects, and other academic facilities. Revenues from these programs and revenues approved by the Board of Trustees, including CSU operating funds, are used to meet operational requirements for the projects and to pay debt service on the debt issued to finance the projects. A strength of the SRB program is its consolidated pledge of gross revenues to the bondholders, which has resulted in strong credit ratings and low borrowing costs for the CSU.

Since the inception of the SRB program, the CSU has also issued commercial paper (CP) primarily to provide campuses with short term, lower cost capital financing on projects until long term bonds are sold. The CSU Institute, a systemwide auxiliary of the CSU, issues the CP, which is secured by bond anticipation notes issued by the CSU. The CSU currently has a CP program in the amount of \$300 million, although both the Board of Trustees and the CSU Institute have authorized a CP program up to \$500 million. The CP program is supported by letters of credit from State Street and Wells Fargo N.A. that expire in May 2025.

As of June 30, 2021, and December 31, 2021, outstanding SRB debt of the CSU was approximately \$7.9 billion and approximately \$8.8 billion, respectively. [...] As of December 31, 2021, outstanding CP was \$746,000 at a weighted average interest rate of 0.11 percent.

For the fiscal years ended June 30, 2019, June 30, 2020, and June 30, 2021, operating performance and debt service coverage ratios for the SRB program were as follows (amounts in millions):

| | June 30, 2019 | June 30, 2020 | June 30, 2021 |
|---------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Operating Revenues | 5,326 | 5,188 | 4,790 |
| Operating Expenses | 1,763 | 1,864 | 1,622 |
| Net Revenues | 3,563 | 3,324 | 3,168 |
| Annual Debt Service | 384 | 423 | 470 |
| Debt Service Coverage (1) | 9.28 | 7.86 | 6.74 |

(1) The minimum benchmark for the system, as established by executive order, is 1.45.”

- b. received as an information item the *CSU Quarterly Investment Report*.

**“CSU Investments – Balances, Allocations, and Returns
September 30, 2021**

| | Balance | % of CSU Investments | 12 Month Returns |
|---|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Liquidity Portfolio (SWIFT) | \$4.828 billion | 76.2% | 0.19% |
| Total Return Portfolio (TRP) | \$1.352 billion | 21.4% | 19.38% |
| <u>Surplus Money Investment Fund (SMIF)</u> | <u>\$152.4 million</u> | <u>2.4%</u> | <u>0.33%</u> |
| CSU Investments | \$6.33 billion | 100%” | |

AEVC Wells added that since the inception of the Total Return Portfolio, “113 million in additional capital and maintenance money has been generated and allocated to campuses.”

In response to a question from Trustee Raynes, Robert Eaton, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Financing, Treasury, and Risk Management, mentioned that the CSU sponsors legislation (AB 2422) to be allowed to invest up to 65% of its investments in the high-yielding TRP instead of the current maximum of 30% (see item 13.a).

13. The Committee on Governmental Relations

- a. received as an information item the *State Legislative Update*.

Larry Salinas, Interim Vice Chancellor for University Relations and Advancement, reiterated the positive funding news on the federal level previously outlined by Acting Chancellor Relyea in his report (item 3.c).

Eric Bakke, Interim Assistant Vice Chancellor for Advocacy and State Relations, presented CSU sponsored legislation and highlighted bills of interest to our system.

Sponsored Legislation

- AB 2973: Education Committee Omnibus Bill
(includes the establishment of Humboldt State as a new Cal Poly and a provision to make it easier to discontinue impaction)
- AB 2422: CSU Investment Committee
(to increase the cap of investments in the Total Return Portfolio from 30% to 65%)
- SB 1280: Tied-House Restriction: Advertising: San Diego State University
(to allow sponsorship by alcoholic beverages companies at SDSU’s new stadium)

Bills of Interest

- AB 1746 (Medina) – Student Financial Aid: Cal Grant Reform Act
- AB 1602 (McCarty) – Student, Faculty, and Staff Housing (zero-interest loans)
- AB 2371 (Santiago) – CSU Tuition (“prohibits the CSU from collecting tuition for two academic years from a student who received the California Promise fee waiver and has transferred with an Associate Degree for Transfer from a CCC.”)
- SB 641 (Skinner) – Cal Fresh (improve reporting to better serve eligible students)

In regards to the CSU’s desire to offer professional doctoral degrees, IAVC Bakke believes that “our best opportunity to successfully advance a Doctorate of Public Health proposal would be to identify a two-year bill already waiting to be heard in June.” If the CSU will be able “to secure an author to amend a bill, we’d be in line with the normal legislative process for a two-year bill.”

At this early stage in the legislative process, the CSU’s position on almost all active and two-year bills is either “pending” or “tracking.”

According to IAVC Bakke, budget advocacy started early in February and is focused on funding for salary adjustments, the Graduate Initiative 2025, and infrastructure investments. He thanked “CSSA, CFA, CSUEU, the Academic Senate, and the Alumni Association for providing a representative from each group during the Chancellor’s delegation meetings.”

At 11:30 am, Chair Kimbell called the meeting of the full **Board of Trustees** to order.

14. The Board of Trustees

- a. approved as an action item in consent the *Appointment of Five Members to the Committee on Committees for 2022-2023.*

Jack Clarke, Jr., Chair

Douglas Faigin, Vice Chair

Diego Arambula

Anna Ortiz-Morfit

Krystal Raynes

- b. approved as an action item in consent all *Committee Resolutions* of this March meeting.

- c. approved as an action item the *Conferral of Title of Trustee Emerita on Debra S. Farar.*

Trustee Farar is the longest-serving trustee on the Board (since 1999), and she also served as Vice Chair (2001-2002) and Chair of the Board (2002-2004).

The Public Meeting of the Board of Trustees was adjourned on March 23 at noon.

----- *The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees will be on May 24-25, 2022* -----