

Academic Senate CSU
401 Golden Shore, Suite 139
Long Beach, CA 90802-4210

www.calstate.edu/acadsen

Catherine Nelson, Chair
Tel 707-664-3963 or 562-951-4014
Fax 562-951-4911
E-mail: nelsonca@sonoma.edu

ASCSU CHAIR'S REPORT
January 2019
Catherine Nelson

Welcome to the January 2019 ASCSU Plenary! I hope everyone had a restorative winter break. This report provides an update on select events since my last report at our November Plenary and our December Interim meetings.

Trustee Visits

Trustee Peter Taylor, Chair of the Board Educational Policy Committee, will join us this Friday. Trustee Kimbell will join us for our March plenary. I'm still hoping we can schedule Student Trustees Hinton and Garcia for a joint visit at one of our remaining plenaries in 2019.

Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates (ICAS)

As a reminder, ICAS is made up of the Executive Committees of the Academic Senates of the CCCs, CSU and UC. ICAS makes recommendations on issues of mutual concern to the Academic Senates of each of the three segments. ICAS also advises education officials and policy makers in California. It does not directly implement higher education policy.

ICAS Legislative Day is February 20. As of this writing our broad theme will be the span of our students' experience from application to retention to graduation. Specifics will include student support (financial aid, advising, basic needs), transfer, diversity (student and faculty) and ethnic studies, and the importance of both STEM and the social sciences/humanities to skill development, life long learning and our students' ability to communicate across cultural and class lines. Other efforts on the advocacy front include a meeting with Department of Finance and Legislative Analyst's Office higher education staff in April. In May we will have a conversation about standardized testing. We continue to discuss the possibility of a definition of diversity for the group. Also perhaps of interest, the UC continues work on its transfer pathways and a transfer guarantee. More information about their transfer pathways is available here: <http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/transfer/preparation-paths/index.html>
The UC is also considering a diversity statement as part of personnel evaluation statements. ICAS also continues to discuss the possibility of it's own definition of diversity.

CSU Campuses

Bakersfield
Channel Islands
Chico
Dominguez Hills
East Bay

Fresno
Fullerton
Humboldt
Long Beach
Los Angeles
Maritime Academy

Monterey Bay
Northridge
Pomona
Sacramento
San Bernardino
San Diego

San Francisco
San José
San Luis Obispo
San Marcos
Sonoma
Stanislaus

Academic Council (Provosts)

The Academic Council met in San Francisco in December. Executive Vice Chancellor Blanchard reported that there are 4 or 5 state legislators who are visiting campuses, asking how they can help to ensure we have another CSU campus – in their district. Dr. Blanchard emphasized that the CSU keeps making it clear that with adequate funding the CSU will have room in existing campuses for increased enrollment, so there wouldn't necessarily be a need for a 24th campus. He also reported that the usefulness of impactation as an enrollment management tool is under discussion among campus presidents.

Two CSU faculty, Rashida Crutchfield, Assistant Professor, CSU Long Beach, and Jennifer Maguire, Associate Professor, Humboldt State University, presented the results of their research about CSU students' basic needs. Their results indicate that 41.6% of student respondents experienced food insecurity, with slightly higher rates for women than men. The highest incidence of food insecurity was in 1st generation students, Pell Grant recipients, LGBTQ students, and foster youth. Seventy percent of those experiencing food insecurity don't have enough money to buy food because they don't have enough money overall. With regard to homelessness, 10.9% of student respondents have experienced at least one incidence of homelessness, with higher rates of homelessness among men, and LGBTQ and African American students. Students experiencing food security had higher GPAs than food insecure students. The authors were surprised that there wasn't a similar trend with homelessness; students experiencing homelessness as a group do have lower GPAs but no where near as large a difference as with those experiencing food insecurity. High food insecurity and homelessness are also associated with missing more days of class. Results also indicate that the university provides a safe place, predictability, and a respite from challenges facing students as they continue their education.

The authors conclude that food insecurity and homelessness manifest differently on each campus. They suggest a two-track solution is needed, meeting immediate needs while developing longer-term solutions. Meeting immediate needs includes developing strategies to target populations with the highest levels of food insecurity and homelessness; providing one point of contact for resources; creating a chat bot around basic needs resources; building awareness among faculty, training them to provide students with referrals and encouraging them to include a line in syllabi about where to go for assistance. Ultimately, the authors point out that even with all these efforts the CSU is focused on symptoms. The underlying long-term issue is that students don't have enough money to support their needs. So in addition to more short-term solutions, the focus should be on revising Cal Grants and other financial aid programs.

Committee on Academic Technology and Online Education (CATOE)

After consultation Gerry Hanley, Assistant Vice Chancellor Academic Technology Services and the other Senators on CATOE, Jerry Schutte and I developed a Proposal for the Evaluation of Online Education for the committee based upon AS-3250-16/FGA (Rev) Resolution Regarding the Evaluation of Online Education (<http://calstate.edu/AcadSen/records/resolutions/2015-2016/documents/3250.shtml>). It was submitted to CATOE Chair President Ochoa (MB) a few days ago. I am hopeful the committee will maintain a robust schedule of meetings this semester to pursue this proposal and other related matters.

Wang Family Awards for Excellence

As ASCSU Chair I was asked to join the Wang Family Awards for Excellence Selection Committee. The awards will be announced during the Board's Educational Policy Committee meeting on Tuesday 1/22. The results are confidential until the meeting, but I wanted to say how outstanding every faculty and staff nominee's application file was. The breadth and excellence of our colleagues' contributions to our students, the CSU and public higher education in California took my breath away. When the time comes, please join me in congratulating the winners.

Other Activities

In addition to the activities mentioned above, the Executive Committee had its Interim Meeting with Chancellor White in December (Executive Vice Chancellor Blanchard sat in for Chancellor White who was unable to join us). We had a robust discussion about several of our November first and second reading resolutions. I met with Brett Christie, CSU Director Quality Learning and Teaching for an update on the Quality Online Teaching and Learning (QOLT) program, the CSU's quality assurance program for online education. I also met with CFA President Jen Eagan to discuss our organizations' respective priorities for the Spring. Upcoming January obligations include the January Board of Trustees meeting, a second meeting of the Revenue Opportunities Task Force, an ICAS video conference, and a Systemwide Budget Advisory Committee meeting.

In conclusion, my thanks (yet again!) to the Executive Committee for their work in coordinating the activities of the ASCSU and joining me in representing you to both our internal and external partners. And thanks to all of you for the work you do to for your campuses and the CSU. The place is much better with all of you in it.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Nelson