

Statewide Senate Report November 2010

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1. Chair Announcements

- a. A large state budget gap still exists. There is a real possibility of mid-year cuts.
- b. Chair Postma will be discussing the Senate budget situation with the EVC this next week.
- c. It is anticipated that there will shortly be a website where campus Graduation Initiative plans can be reviewed. Progress is being made despite our budget difficulties.
- d. Campus enrollment targets continue to be adjusted in response to budget and yield developments.
- e. The Early Start Task Force has met once. Chair Postma is a member of the task force. Campus first draft plans are due on November 19th. It is hoped that campus faculty will be heavily involved in the development and implementation of final campus plans.
- f. We are working closely with the CCC faculty to work on the implementation of AA transfer degrees as described under SB 1440 (STAR Act). We are in the process of appointing discipline representatives.
 - i. Senators are asked to encourage discipline faculty on their campuses, especially chairs, to volunteer to serve of the Faculty Discipline Related Groups (FDRGs).
 - ii. All discipline faculty are encouraged to review and comment on the associated course descriptors on the C-ID web site. <http://www.c-id.net/>
 - iii. Communication, sociology, mathematics, psychology, and geology are already meeting and moving toward closure on their course patterns and descriptors.
- g. Chair Postma attended a Central Valley Higher Education Consortium meeting. It is important that faculty be involved in any developments regarding curriculum and other academic issues. Groups like this may benefit from reminders of the important role of faculty.

2. Excerpts from Other Reports

- a. Chair Cheyne (FA) reported that the CO believes that a 5-year FERP program will continue.
- b. There was considerable interest in the Red Balloon initiative. CSU Fresno and other CSU campuses are moving ahead, despite an apparent dearth of faculty participation. One needs to request permission to enter the AASCU official website but a link to their blog follows. <http://aascuredballoonproject.wordpress.com/>
The link to a related thought piece is <http://www.aascu.org/programs/redballoon/files/Red+Balloon+Project+Description.pdf> The aims of the project are to explore new models for
 - i. Institutional Organization and Design (Academic Affairs - Student Affairs collaboration, new departmental, college structures)
 - ii. Enrollment Management (academic advising, tracking, early warning, predictive modeling)
 - iii. Faculty Workload (different kinds of faculty work, the use of part-time faculty)
 - iv. Curriculum (degrees limited to 120 hours, interdisciplinary programs, new designs for general education)

- v. Course Design (reduced seat time, student-centered learning, undergraduate research, project-based learning)
 - vi. Instructional Design (new forms of student engagement, use of technology in teaching, distance education)
 - c. Our Budget Specialist (David Hood) gave a report.
 - i. The Board will consider calling the State University Fee tuition at their meeting next week.
 - ii. Our fees remain at the bottom of public university fees.
 - iii. A big concern about the budget is the one-time money being used to fund enrollment increases this year. There will be a fee increase proposed next week. We may need to generate some reserves to partially offset some of the potential mid-year budget reduction.
 - d. The Faculty Trustee Recommending Committee Chair (Goldwhite) made a report.
 - i. The committee has been populated.
 - ii. Despite the opinion of CSU counsel, the eligibility of FERP faculty for the Faculty Trustee position appears to be at the discretion of ASCSU.
 - iii. Nominees were solicited.
 - iv. The Committee will be meeting soon via teleconference.
 - e. The General Education Advisory Committee met in October. Issues of interest include
 - i. Consideration of further alignment of CSU GE Area-Breadth and IGETC curricula.
 - ii. The use of the International Baccalaureate diploma for GE certification (task force assignment).
 - iii. The Compass Project
 - iv. Statway—potential limited waiver of the second-year algebra prerequisite for GE statistics at 5 CCC campuses (task force assignment).
3. We passed several resolutions at the November plenary that were previously introduced at the September plenary. Copies of this and other past resolutions can be found at <http://www.calstate.edu/AcadSen/Records/Resolutions/>.
- a. **Support Services and Troops to College** calls on the Board to seek funding to support the needs of these students
 - b. **Public Education Leadership and Political Neutrality** endorses the principle that public systems of higher education administrators not have their roles publically associated with support of political candidates.
 - c. **Meeting General Education Requirements Using College Level Examination Program (CLEP) Tests** The GE Advisory Committee developed guidelines for the use of CLEP in GE last year. This resolution encourages the of CLEP within those guidelines and that the number of CLEP testing sites on public higher education campuses be increased.
 - d. **Resolution on Returning Vets** encourages campuses to allow returning veterans to have the option of catalog rights dating at the time they were first admitted.
4. **Adequate Financial Support for the Academic Senate of the CSU (ASCSU)** was not acted upon and will return to the body in January.
5. **Support for High Quality, Appropriate, and Affordable Course Materials** was withdrawn by the FGA Committee.
6. A couple of items were passed without a first reading due to their urgency.
- a. **A Call for Governor Brown to Appoint a Faculty Trustee** encourages him to appoint one of our two nominees and calls upon our Board members to use their influence to encourage him to appoint.

- b. **Public Sharing of Campuses' Early Start Program Plans** requests that these plans be available on a website as soon as they are available.
- 7. Several other resolutions were introduced during the plenary. They will be taken up at our next meeting in January after allowing campuses time to review them and provide feedback.
 - a. **Commending the CSU for Hosting A National Teacher Education Summit and to Encourage Faculty Attendance** specifically recognizes the leadership of Board Chair Carter and asks that the publications developed as a result of the conference be widely disseminated.
 - b. **Recognition and Commendation for Efforts that have Increased Rates of Proficiency in Reading and Writing for Entering Freshman** recognizes the leadership of a couple of individuals in the ERWC effort and commends and encourages the collaboration with our high school faculty colleagues.
 - c. **Creation of a Taskforce for Developing System Policies of Online Degree Programs** encourages the Chancellor to convene a task force composed of Academic Affairs staff, provosts, students, ASCSU members and others.
 - d. **Implications of the U.S. Supreme Court's Decision in Garcetti v. Ceballos** expresses our concern that the ruling may be a basis for restricting academic freedom by punishing faculty for expressing opinions about campus administrative leadership and encourages campuses to develop policies that would preserve academic freedom and freedom of speech. The ruling allows restrictions on the ability of public employees to express opinions without employer discipline.
 - e. **Setting the Stage for Quality Education in the CSU** reaffirms support for ACR 73 and calls for a restoration of full-time, permanent faculty.
 - f. **Sale, Distribution of Publishing of Class Materials for Commercial Use** expresses support for the section of California Code prohibiting this practice and thanks the CO for attempts to ensure the law is followed. This resolution is partly in response to the NoteUtopia controversy that has recently been in the news.
 - g. **Fiscal Concerns on Implementation of Early Start Programs** asks that students not be disadvantaged due to financial circumstances and that campuses not be fiscally disadvantaged as they implement this Board mandate.
 - h. **Call for Intersegmental Collaboration on the Implementation of AB 1295 (Fuller) – Postsecondary Education: Nursing Degree Programs** calls upon our CCC colleagues to advise their students to complete either GE Area-Breadth as a component of the transfer degrees in nursing.
 - i. **Assessment and Reporting of Results of Early Start Programs** requests specific types of analyses be done on the campus Early Start program.
- 8. The **Board of Trustees** will be meeting next week. See the following link for the committee and plenary agendas. <http://www.calstate.edu/BOT/agendas/>
- 9. **CSSA Representative Neil Sanchez:** The students registered 40,000 new voters. They passed two resolutions on shared governance. They are considering resolutions on GBLT support and “clickers” in classrooms. A newly formed fundraising committee is meeting for the first time tomorrow along with lobby corp. A sustainability plan was approved. They are working on a resolution on on-line teaching evaluations.

10. **Executive Vice Chancellor (for Academic Affairs) Ephraim Smith** reported that four campuses have been visited for Graduation Initiative review. The visiting administration team meets with faculty and administrative leaders to gather information about campus programs, including what appear to be best practices to share with the other campuses. The remaining campuses will be visited by March. Collaborate work with the CCC on SB 1440 implementation continues with involvement of top administration and senates. Many operational details are being worked out. The CCC campuses may need to adapt some of their curricular policies to all them to be compliant. Our system FTES target has moved from 310,000 to 317,000 to 325,000 to 331,000 and 339,000 as stimulus monies have been pledged and the budget became clearer. We are worried that if we miss our final target, the legislature will reduce our budget allocation accordingly. One way we hope to accomplish this and improve graduation is to allow/encourage students to take higher course loads.

11. **CSULB President F. King Alexander** addressed the plenary.

- a. He is very involved in public higher education financing. The national conversation has moved from funding overly reliant on history and arbitrary rankings to one which pays attention to “productivity” and degree production.
- b. CA is the only state where he has higher education experience that appears to never look to other states for comparison.
- c. He shared a presentation previously shared with the LAO (2008 data). We teach a very high percentage of high-cost students (as indicated by Pell Grant recipients) yet we are incredibly “efficient” as indicated by our spending per student/outcome. California and Florida spend the least for public higher education. CSU graduates fare very well in terms of earning, even when compared against private institutions. National policy seems upside-down when it comes to funding of higher education. The Ivy League institutions combined serve half the total number of low-income students that CSU Northridge serves. Yet, they receive a lot more public support.

i. INSTITUTION(S)	Total Expenditures/FTES	Spending/Degree
ii. CCC	\$10,229	\$93,172
iii. CSU	\$15,108	\$48,143
iv. Peer	\$26,901	\$65,336
v. Public Research	\$33,477	\$68,636
vi. UC	\$42,305	\$96,332
vii. Private Research	\$105,037	\$203,348

- d. In response to a question about graduation rates, President Alexander shared the example of Truman State. It shot up in the rankings based on degree completion, etc. However, they became selective and dramatically reduced their

low income and local student population. Policy need to look at graduation rates and degree completion more holistically. Money authorized for aid that would have helped the CSU was reallocated for other purposes. We need to do a better job of educating decision-makers about the value we provide for the public.

- e. We only spend \$600 more per FTES than the CCCs. Given our degree production, etc., we are a very good investment. Proprietary institutions are demonstrably not a good place to put our public resources.

12. Eric Forbes, CO Director of Enrollment Management Services discussed several issues.

- a. The Early Start implementation plans are due this month. The program will be implemented in the fall of 2012. The implementation team will review those plans shortly thereafter. This effort is one manifestation of a recommitment to student success. It is hoped that more students will attain proficiency in high school and hence not be required to participate in Early Start.
- b. The faculty are taking the lead in dealing with implementation issues regarding SB 1440. It is important for the students that statewide coordination take place. The call for campus discipline faculty to review descriptors was reiterated. The CCC is considering a requirement of C in all basic skills courses and a C average overall. The group is considering having the program “start” in fall of 2011—students would be able to declare an intention to complete a transfer degree at that time.
- c. Enrollment management is difficult. We have a target of 339,000 FTES. We hope that the proposition allowing majority vote to pass a state budget will help us in future years to have an on-time budget. Campuses have a number of decisions to make in order to meet their enrollment targets without exceeding them. Some campuses are exploring ways to allow students to take advantage of course offerings on more than one campus. Penalties associated with missing targets are suspended this year.

13. John Travis, CFA Liaison: The bargaining team is in the middle of two days of negotiations with the CSU. CFA is pleased with the outcome of the midterm elections, particularly with the election of Governor Brown. It is anticipated that there will be much more access than to the current Governor. CFA also supported Superintendent-Elect Torlakson. The CSU has asked for a number of “take-aways” in negotiations. The CFA asked to begin negotiating on the article dealing with layoffs. It appears that several campus administrations violated a number of layoff procedures under the current contract this past year. Lecturers make up over half of our faculty number and teach well over half of the courses taught. It appears the administration would like to differentiate more between lecturer and tenure/tenure-track faculty. They would like more latitude in layoff procedures and evaluation of faculty. The team was surprised at the number and intensity of “take-away” proposals. CFA opposes the proposed student fee increases.

- a. **Teri Yamada** (CFA bargaining team) gave a report on AASCU's Red Balloon Initiative. She believes this is aligned with a number of other efforts to redesign curriculum, delivery and academic structures. CFA is very leery of the aims of this effort, especially since a number of CSU campuses are involved. There are concerns about the lack of respect for faculty governance in these initiatives.

14. **Gerry Hanley, Senior Director of Academic Technology Services** gave an overview of several initiatives.

- a. Course Redesign (including intro chemistry, math, US history, etc) was undertaken with CO support to hopefully increase student success in "bottleneck," low-pass-rate courses. <http://teachingcommons.cdl.edu/tcd/>
- b. The Learning Management Systems Initiative (and LMS Futures) is an attempt to support LMS on campuses. The two support groups have formed around Moodle (open source) and Blackboard. We spend about \$2m a year systemwide to license and support Blackboard. A lot of attention was paid to forming an appropriate governance structure to coordinate these inter-campus collaborations. SF is a leader in the implementation and usage of Moodle. Blackboard has purchased Elluminate and another conferencing tool and we are negotiating with them for conferencing support. <http://dat.cdl.edu/lms>
- c. There is a effort to have all CSU electronic services (library, LMS, etc.) available on mobile devices.
- d. In response to a question about curricular initiatives, Dr. Hanley indicated that there are is a forum for sharing information about grants and curricular ideas on MERLOT. <http://voices.merlot.org/group/csusnextgenerationlearningchallengescommunity>