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ASCSU Chair's Report November 2019 **Submitted by Catherine Nelson**

Welcome to the November 2019 Plenary, colleagues! As our October Interim Meeting was October 25, this report will briefly update you on the major issues that continue to occupy our collective time and attention.

Search for a New Chancellor

Vice Chair Collins and I attended the first two open forums designed to gather feedback on what CSU colleagues want to see in a new chancellor. The first was at Sacramento State on Tuesday, November 12 at CSU Sacramento and the second at CSU East Bay today, November 13. I'd guess maybe 100+ people attended both. We heard from staff, faculty, students, union representatives and administrators. Students were particularly well represented at the East Bay discussion.

The major themes raised so far include: collaboration as a core value; a good cultural fit with the CSU; respect for shared governance and academic freedom; experience in a collective bargaining environment; someone who will work well with the legislature and administration; knowledge of California and California higher education; someone from inside the CSU; someone who reflects the demographics of our students and understands the need for faculty/staff who reflect our student demographic; the importance of the student-faculty relationship to student success; commitment to sustainability at the system and campus level; outreach to communities outside the university; attention to students' basic needs; importance of food and housing insecurity and mental health needs (and the companion need for a much better student-counselor ratio); protection for DACA students and undocumented students, faculty and staff; the need for affordable faculty/staff housing; and concern about the lack of specifically labor representation on the advisory committee.

There are four open forums left. You can find the schedule, watch via livestream, watch archived video, provide feedback and even nominate someone for the position on the search website at: <https://www2.calstate.edu/csu-system/chancellor/chancellor-search>

Please feel free to contact Vice Chair Collins and me with feedback at any time as well.

ASCSU Travel Budget

The Executive Committee was asked to provide a report on our travel budget for 2019-20. As you recall, we were provided with an additional \$50,000 in our budget to cover travel costs. ASCSU Director Tracy Butler has provided us with the following information.

There are still outstanding travel claims from 2018-19, but Director Butler estimates that last year we spent \$172,000 on travel. We also carried forward a cumulative deficit of approximately \$49,500 from 2017-18 to 2018-19. Because of the added \$50,000 this year we

were able to bring all campuses “into the green,” with approximately \$24,500 cumulatively left at the campuses at the end of the 2018-19 year (about \$1,000 for each campus). That cushion will cover actual claim amounts that might have gone over our estimate for a given Senator, or any other claims that are still outstanding. Director has budgeted \$190,000 (about a 10% increase) for next year.

There are also several parameters we adhere to, based upon CSU travel policy and our own practices under that policy, that keep us within budget. We fund first year senators’ travel to plenary meetings. We fund second year and beyond senators travel to standing committee and plenary meetings and systemwide taskforce/committee meetings when Zoom isn’t appropriate. CSU travel policy also requires that anyone who lives, or works on a CSU campus located within 25 miles of the CO) receive funding for daily travel, but not for overnight travel. Whichever location is closest to the CO is used as the baseline. Historically, the Executive Committee has approved exceptions when a disability may affect length/duration of travel; long distance or a departure time (2:00 or 3:00am) prevents colleagues from getting to the CO for a morning meeting (typically northern campuses Humboldt and Chico); as needed for ASCSU leadership (Ex Com, Standing Committee Chairs) as increased workload demands night before arrival or flexibility in availability; and natural disasters or unforeseen events (earthquake, fires, live shooter at LAX a few years ago). In all these circumstances a justification and paper trail are required for an exception.

Ethnic Studies

Academic Affairs Chair Susan Schlievert sent out AA’s draft resolution on an ethnic studies requirement this evening (Wednesday). Chair Schlievert tells me that two of our Ethnic Studies Council colleagues consulted with AA in the effort. Chair Schlievert will update us in more detail tomorrow.

Quantitative Reasoning

See the BOT Educational Policy Committee agenda for changes in the proposed CSU 4th year of quantitative reasoning proposal. Major changes include postponing a BOT vote until January 2020 and extended the effective date to Fall 2027.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Nelson