

## **ASCSU Chair's Board of Trustees Meeting Report**

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1. Academic Senate of the California State University, as the voice of over 23,000 faculty of the CSU, issues formal statements by resolution. At our meeting last week the following statements were approved. [you have a summary sheet and copies of the resolutions in your packets]
  - AS 3197 asks that the Chancellor's Office and Board of Trustees collaborate with Academic Senate representatives to draft a new and comprehensive policy on Academic Freedom. The current statement dates from 1971, hence it is older than a significant number of the faculty, and a number of President Hirschman's buildings, and it does not address a number of issues that have arisen in the intervening forty plus years. Chancellor White has indicated his interest in a conversation about Academic Freedom and we look forward to engaging in that conversation and to developing a policy that provides guidance and appropriate protections pertinent to the challenges we face.
  - AS 3199 on Non-Tenure Track Faculty and Shared Governance in the CSU asks campus Academic Senates to ensure that their constitutions and policies accord the status of faculty to all full and part-time lecturers, coaches, counselors and librarians, consistent with the CSU-CFA Bargaining Agreement. It also encourages campus senates to revise their policies to encourage participation in shared governance by all faculty unit employees.
  - AS 3200 expresses our appreciation and thanks to Governor Brown, Assemblymember Williams, Chancellor White, AVC Zamarippa, our colleagues at CSSA and others for their work on AB 2324, which provides for the sitting faculty trustee to continue in office for up to one year in the event that the governor doesn't appoint a faculty trustee.
  - AS 3201 Call for Withdrawal of the Proposed 2015 Teacher Preparation Regulations under Title II of the Higher Education Act echoes the position of the CSU, the California Department of Education, the Commission on Teacher Credentialing and a wide array of other organizations. We believe that the proposed regulations make an erroneous causal connection between standardized test scores and the effectiveness of individual teachers and teacher preparation programs. The proposed regulations jeopardize teacher candidates and programs serving high poverty and ethnically diverse communities and are an intrusion upon the state's responsibility for teacher preparation.

- AS 3203 expresses our gratitude to the Chancellor, to the staff of the Chancellors Office and to all who participated in the Academic Conference which took place following the November Board meeting. The feedback we've received indicates that those attending found the conference and conversations informative and useful. We are in the process of reviewing the event and the conference surveys with an eye toward making the next Academic Conference even more informative and useful.
2. Our continuing work includes a strong focus on investment in the CSU's means of production - long term, tenure track faculty. You engaged in a thoughtful debate this morning about the need to invest in, maintain and replace the buildings and facilities of the CSU. The CSU also needs to invest in the faculty who design and deliver education to our students, be it in traditional classrooms or in virtual, online environments.
  3. Yesterday we were privileged to hear about four of those faculty - the 2015 Wang Award Faculty.

Quoting Nate Thomas, one of the awardees:

"The faculty I work with at Northridge, they are the cream of the crop. They could work at Stanford or Harvard, but they choose to work in the CSU because of its mission. We want to make a difference in the lives of our students, so many of whom are the first in their families to go to college. I am extremely proud to be part of the CSU faculty."

Each of the awardees expressed similar sentiments. I believe their statements capture the transformative nature of what we aspire to and the reality that we are engaged in a task that requires interactions with a plethora of committed and talented faculty. Their statements highlight the need for faculty who can be long term members of our university communities and devote their full energies toward meeting the goals Chancellor White laid out in his speech yesterday.

4. Read more here: <http://www.sacbee.com/news/politics-government/capitol-alert/article8380833.html#storylink=cpy>  
We are appreciative of Chancellor White's understanding of the need for faculty and VC HR Lamb's willingness to work with the campuses to facilitate processes. We urge the campus presidents to continue their efforts to ensure the long term viability of our universities by investing in faculty and we seek your support and advocacy as we move forward toward our shared goal of providing access to excellence for California's students.