

ASCSU Chair's Board of Trustees Meeting Report

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1. Concerning the Academic Conference that Chair Monville and Chancellor White have mentioned in their remarks - the conference will be November 13-14 [Immediately following the next meeting of this body].

You should have a flyer with brief bios for our keynote speakers - Kevin Finneran [Thursday], is a Director at the National Academy of Science and will be speaking on Technology, the Social Divide and Higher Education. Kevin is a well-respected authority on science and engineering education and STEM issues.

Suzanne Mettler [Friday], the Rossiter Chair in American Institutions in the Government department at Cornell University, will be speaking on the subject of her well-reviewed book - Degrees of Inequality, focussing on how we can, in her words, restore the American Dream.

This conference is a return to a long tradition of providing space for dialogue between trustees, faculty, students and administrators. We believe those conversations will further our efforts to meet the mission of the CSU

We thank Chancellor White for his vision, strong support for revitalizing and funding of this conference. We thank the campus presidents for providing funding for campus teams of administrators, students and faculty to attend. We hope that you can attend and look forward to the conversations we'll have at the conference.

2. Resolutions [the formal communications channel of the ASCSU]
 - a. We issued a commendation thanking the S. D. Bechtel Foundation for their continuing support and partnership on projects addressing k-12 teacher training and skills acquisition in Science, Math and Literacy. We note that those projects seek to address some of the college-readiness challenges we face.
 - b. We approved a resolution changing our position on AB 46. ASCSU was in support of the initial bill, but as AVC Zamarripa noted yesterday, the bill was amended in the legislative process in ways that ASCSU believes make it unsupportable. We therefore changed our position to oppose and have communicated to the Governor our request that he not sign the bill into law.
3. As you know, the search process for a new Executive Vice Chancellor of Academic and Student Affairs has started. We appreciate the Chancellor's emphasis on a consultative approach to finding a new Chief Academic Officer and his early involvement of faculty. The search firm has formally consulted with ASCSU, spending over an hour seeking input at our plenary last week, and is in the process of soliciting counsel from the campuses. We believe

this process of wide and thorough consultation will result in a successful search and our finding the best person for the job.

4. Over the summer ASCSU leadership developed priorities and goals for the year. Last year my predecessor Dr. Guerin convened a group including Chancellor White, CO AA executives and CSSA leadership to share priorities for the year. The positive outcomes of that event led us to convene the same group in August this year. A priority that all groups shared is reviewing and perhaps updating the Access to Excellence Strategic Plan. ASCSU shares Chancellor White's goal of reviewing the plan, and we suggest that a wide review with all stakeholders would further our ability to meet the goals laid out in the plan.

We also suggest that a focus on data-driven, outcomes-based metrics would provide the best decision information as we evaluate our progress on plan goals. Further, we think development of those metrics would assist us as we communicate the value of what we do to the public and to policy makers. As Ryan Storm suggested yesterday, there are required performance measures we must report, but we should also make use of additional metrics to provide context for understanding of those performance measures.

A continuing priority for the ASCSU is improving communication, both internal and external. One path for that this year will be the Intersegmental Council of Academic Senates [ICAS], which includes Academic Senate leadership from the UC system, the CCC system and the CSU. This group has increasing influence at the state level with legislators and policy makers. This year we are chairing the group and we will be working on several of the issues you've heard reports on at this meeting, including facilitation of transfer between systems and online course sharing. You've heard reports on the CSU system, CourseMatch. The UC and CCC have equivalent systems and we will be sharing information at ICAS in hopes of learning from each other's experiences and building a system that provides maximal utility to our students.

We are also engaged in continuing conversations with Academic Affairs staff on the creation of Discipline Councils, which would greatly enhance communication across campuses. Further conversations also address the challenge of finding common definitions for "online course", "hybrid course" and other labels. One of the challenges we face in communicating about our efforts in the technology environment is finding common descriptors for what we do. We hope that developing a lingua franca of modes of instruction will enable us to communicate more effectively what we do.

5. Student Success Fee Task Force - On behalf of the ASCSU I request the addition of a faculty member to the task force. Including a faculty member or two would facilitate the task force's gathering the widest possible range of input and would also provide for a balanced outcomes report with direct input from critically important stakeholder groups. The ASCSU would be happy to identify faculty who can provide insight into the issues and who are willing and able to serve on and assist with the work of the task force. We take our statutory role in shared governance very seriously and would welcome the opportunity to take an active role in this process as well.