

ASCSU Chair Barry Pasternack's Report for September 2007 Plenary

Intersegmental Coordinating Council (ICC) in Sacramento - May 31st

Allison Jones gave a report from the CSU detailing proposed plans to visit military bases throughout California to try to increase the percentage of military personnel who apply to study at a CSU campus. It is estimated that approximately 60,000 people a year leave military service in California each year and 75% of those have substantial funding in the form of the Montgomery GI Bill. To date, only a small percentage of those eligible are enrolled in public higher education in California. There may need to be changes in admissions procedures to address this population and Allison plans to take any possible modifications to the Admission Advisory Council for review.

We also heard a presentation from Connect Ed dealing with high school programs that combine technical education with satisfying the a)- g) requirements. This group is the lead on meeting the legislative mandate in terms of certifying high school technical education courses for equivalency to an a) through g) course. Groups have been formed to start reviewing such courses, but to date CSU faculty have not been included in this groups. The Director for Policy Analysis and Development for Connect Ed was reminded that review efforts are to include faculty representatives from the CSU. To that end, Exec. has appointed Senators, Buckley, Guerin, and Kellner to represent us in these efforts.

Perhaps the most interesting piece of information that I gleaned from the meeting was that there were high schools that did not have counselors on staff. I found that incredible and a sad commentary on the high school education that is being offered to some students.

Investiture of Mo Qayoumi - June 1st

I attended the the recently appointed President of CSU East Bay. Senator Hank Reichman in his role as campus Senate Chair did a wonderful job of congratulating Mo on behalf of the faculty at CSU East Bay. The event was followed by a reception for all attendees.

Former Chair Thobaben and I met with Chancellor Reed and Executive Vice Chancellor Reichard regarding the "no confidence" votes at Sacramento and Sonoma - June 6th

We expressed our serious concerns about the comments made at the Board of Trustees meeting and that actions followed in past no confidence votes did not seem to be being taken at the two campuses. The Chancellor indicated that he would be addressing the issue. We followed this up with a letter to the ASCSU detailing our meeting.

ICAS in Los Angeles - June 7th

I together with the Executive Committee attended. At this meeting we decided to send a letter to Education Secretary Spellings expressing our support for maintaining regional accreditation. Senator Yee-Melichar worked with representatives from the UC and CCC Academic Senates in developing this letter. A copy was sent to the ASCSU.

At this meeting we also heard progress reports dealing with ASSIST and the C-ID project. Also discussed was the BOAR's proposal to reform UC's freshman eligibility policy. One issue of concern that was raised by the ASCSU Executive Committee was the disparity in faculty representation by the CSU relative to the UC on a taskforce being set up by the UC to look at the high school a) - g) math, science, and engineering curriculum.

ASCSU leadership held a meeting in Long Beach - June 11th and 12th. At this meeting we staffed the four Senate standing committees and selected faculty to serve on the approximately 50 committees that we participate in. Notes from this meeting can be found at:
http://www.calstate.edu/AcadSen/Committees/Executive/excm_minutes_jun2007.pdf.

Past Chair Thobaben and I attended a meeting of the Academic Council in San José June 13th through the 15th.

We heard a presentation by David Conn, Cheryl Ney, Mary Allen, and Linda Buckley on ‘Achieving Bok’s Vision’ which focused on material contained in the book Our Underachieving Colleges by Derek Bok, President Emeritus of Harvard University. The following day we began with the presentation Campus Enrollment Management: The role of Academic Affairs and the Provost’s Office. At the conclusion of this presentation the talk turned to the upcoming difficulties brought about by the budget cuts campuses were placing. One speaker indicated the cause of the budget problems was the compensation increases campuses had to pay. The next speaker then indicated it was due to the faculty compensation increases. At that point I spoke up and said that the compensation being paid to faculty was just one cost of running the university and that it was unfair to lay any necessary program cuts at the feet of the faculty. I then had to leave the meeting to attend my daughter’s high school graduation. I did return for meetings the following morning. The morning began with a break out session dealing with Ed.D. programs. At this session campuses interested in starting an Ed.D. program had the opportunity to ask questions of campuses that were about to start their programs. We then heard a presentation on the CSU and state budget. Handouts from that presentation were sent to the ASCSU. The gathering concluded with a presentation on the upcoming plans for Access to Excellence. This was put on by past Chair Thobaben, Vice President Ochoa, and Executive Vice Chancellor Reichard.

CFA Board dinner - June 15th

I attended a dinner honoring outgoing CFA President John Travis and outgoing CFA General Manager, Bob Muscatt. Following the dinner I addressed the CFA Board of Directors and stressed our desire to work together and our hope that the CSU, CFA, and ASCSU can work together in a spirit of collegiality and civility in serving the students of the CSU.

California P-16 Conference held at CSU Long Beach, Wednesday - June 20th

I attended two sessions, one entitled “DREAMS: A Model for Leveraging Collaboration to Promote Student Success in Algebra” put on by two faculty members from CSU Northridge and the other entitled “Ventura County Regional P-16 Council- Our Pipeline is Leaking ... But Where?” put on by several academics including a faculty member from CSU Channel Islands.

ITL Director - July 6th

I, together with Executive Committee members Thobaben and Yee-Melichar, participated in the interviewing of the two finalists for the position of ITL Director. We were all pleased to learn that Cynthia Desrochers (CSU Northridge) accepted the position with a start date of August 1st.

Executive Committee - July 9th

The executive committee met to discuss the Board of Trustees agenda and to plan the September Plenary meeting as well as the ASCSU Newsletter. At this meeting we finalized a letter opposing AB 1548 which was sent to the author as well as other legislators. Thanks to F&GA Chair Hornbeck and members of F&GA for working on this letter.

Executive Committee - July 10th

The executive committee met with the new CSSA Leadership as well as attended the Board of Trustees meeting. This was followed on by our attendance at the meeting on the morning of July 11th. On the afternoon of July 11th I participated in the selection of the student recipients of the Hearst scholarships.

MERLOT Conference - August 8th through 10th

I attended the annual MERLOT conference as well as OpeniWorld. The MERLOT conference was actually quite interesting. While I had seen a presentation on some of the learning modules that are available through MERLOT a couple of years ago, I never really made the effort to look at these in any detail. This conference gave me the opportunity to see a demonstration of some of these modules. While some may be of limited value to faculty, others shown were quite innovative and could prove beneficial in appropriate courses. A major difficulty, as I saw it, is that many faculty are unaware of these resources. We hope to address this to a certain extent by including articles on technology (including MERLOT) in this year's first edition of the Senate Newsletter. At the OpeniWorld conference I attended sessions dealing with the Digital Marketplace as well as technical issues related to content exchange.

Faculty Day held at CSU Fullerton - August 15th

I gave a presentation at the Faculty Day held at CSU Fullerton. The topic of the meeting was Accountability in Higher Education and I was part of a three person panel speaking on accountability activities taking place at the college, university, and system level. I talked specifically about resolutions of the ASCSU dealing with accountability and referenced the letter that ICAS sent to Secretary Spellings earlier in the summer. In the evening of August 15th I, together with other members of the Executive Committee, had a dinner with CFA leadership to explore issues of mutual concern as well as ways we can work more effectively together to serve the students of the CSU.

ATAC meeting - August 16th

I co-chaired the with Mike Mahoney, Provost at CSU East Bay. I have previously forwarded to you the excellent notes of the meeting compiled by Senator Kegley. Following the ATAC meeting, I attended a meeting of the Academic Council. This meeting was held on the afternoon of August 16 and the morning of August 17. Issues discussed at Academic Council included academic technology (Provost Mahoney and I gave a brief report on what was discussed at ATAC), a budget update from Patrick Lenz, an HR update from Gail Brooks (I was not present for that discussion), a discussion of English and Math proficiency (focusing on some promising campus practices), and updates on the following: Access to Excellence, voluntary systems of accountability efforts, nursing programs (funding and possibility of offering applied doctorates in nursing), taskforce reports (DWIR, Professional Graduate Business Degree Fees, Textbook Affordability, and International Education), LDTP, ITL, and the role of research in the CSU. I gave a brief report on issues the ASCSU will be working on during the upcoming year.

Systemwide Budget Advisory Committee - August 27th

I attended a meeting of the. I have previously forwarded to you Senator Hood's excellent notes for this meeting.