

## **March 7-9, 2016 CSU Board of Trustees Meeting Faculty Trustee's Report**

### **Steven Stepanek**

Key activities of the March 7-9, 2016 Board of Trustees meeting:

1. March 7<sup>th</sup> was spent in closed session interviewing the finalists for the positions of president at California State University, Channel Islands and California State University, Chico.

On the morning of March 9<sup>th</sup>, the appointment of Erika D. Beck, Ph.D. as president of California State University, Channel Islands, effective August 8<sup>th</sup>, was announced. Dr. Beck currently serves as the provost and executive vice president of Nevada State College (NSC) in Henderson, Nevada. She has been associated with NSC in various capacities from its founding in 2002. NSC is patterned to fill a role in higher education in Nevada similar to the function of the CSU in California. She holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from UC San Diego, a master's degree in psychology from San Diego State, and a doctorate in experimental psychology from UC San Diego. Dr. Beck will be the second president of CSU, Channel Islands, following Dr. Rush who is retiring after servicing 15 years as the campus' inaugural president.

Also on March 9<sup>th</sup>, the appointment of Gayle E. Hutchinson, Ed.D. as president of California State University, Chico, effective July 1<sup>st</sup> was announced. Dr. Hutchinson is currently the provost and vice president of Academic Affairs at CSU, Channel Islands. Prior to coming to Channel Islands, Gayle spent nearly 20 years in various instructional and leadership positions at Chico State. She holds a bachelor's degree in physical education teacher education from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, a master's from Teachers College, Columbia University in teaching analysis and curriculum development, and a doctorate of education from University of Massachusetts, Amherst in teacher education/staff development. Dr. Hutchinson succeeds Dr. Zingg as the president of Chico State. President Zingg is retiring after serving as president since 2004.

2. During the March 8<sup>th</sup> open session of the Board meeting, the collective bargaining agreement with Bargaining Unit 4, the Academic Professionals of California, was ratified and the initial proposals for a successor collective bargaining agreement with Bargaining Unit 13, California State University Employees Union, SEIU Local 2579, English Language Program instructors at CSU, Los Angeles, was adopted.

Vice Chancellor Lori Lamb provided an update on the status of negotiations between the CSU and California Faculty Association which consisted of a statement regarding the statutory impasse process. At this time, both the CSU and CFA have presented their cases to a neutral factfinder and we are awaiting the factfinder's report. Once the report is in the hands of both the CSU and CFA, there is a 10-day "quiet period" to allow both parties to review the content of the report and possibly reopen negotiations. After the 10 days, the report is publicly released and CFA will have the option of instituting strike actions.

Vice Chancellor Lamb stated that the 2015-2016 budget approved by the Board provides the funds for a 2% increase for all employees. This 2% applied to Unit 3 translates to \$33 million for the

year. She stated that CFA's proposal for a 5% GSI comes to \$82.5 million with an additional \$19.8 million required to cover the 1.2% SSI request. The "me too" clauses in most of the other CSU collective bargaining agreements would then add an additional \$40.7 million, bring the total annual cost to \$143 million; which is \$110 million more than what is currently budgeted for in ongoing CSU expenses.

Vice Chancellor Lamb also stated that faculty who participate in any strike action cannot consider the days of such an action as being work days, meaning their pay can be docked.

During the public comment period related to collective bargaining: multiple lecturers spoke of their low salaries; Pat Gantt, CSUEU, complimented that guest badges were not required for this board meeting but repeated past concerns that CSU employees from campuses were not being treated as equals when visiting the Chancellor's Office; CSUEU representatives expressed concerns regarding the purpose of surveillance cameras being installed on many campuses and called for a single CSU policy on their installation rather than leaving the policy aspects in the hands of each campus; CSUEU representatives also expressed concerns regarding the outsourcing of jobs that is occurring on some campuses and the lack of a system policy regarding smoking. Representatives from a number of collective bargaining units outside of CFA made it clear that while they support the actions of CFA, because of collective bargaining agreement clauses, they would be required to cross CFA picket lines and report for work during any CFA strike days. These same representatives stated that their union members would not perform any activities normally associated with Unit 3 workers (CFA) during any strike actions.

3. The Committee on Campus Planning, Building and Grounds approved to amend the 2015-16 Capital Outlay Program to accommodate projects by Pomona (parking lot C reconfiguration), San Bernardino (parking lot N), and San Jose (south parking facility improvements.)
4. Somewhat related to the items approved by the Campus Planning, Building and Grounds Committee, the Committee on Organization and Rules discussed a first-reading, informational item on revising the Standing Orders to delegate the approval of capital outlay projects and schematic designs valued at \$5 million or less to the Chancellor. Currently, the Chancellor can approve projects valued at \$3 million or less. Trustee Taylor pointed out that the UC has a similar policy but their ceiling amount is \$50 million.

Of the three parking lot improvement projected approved by Campus Planning, Building and Grounds during this meeting, the Pomona project is just under \$4 million, the San Bernardino project is \$6.5 million and the San Jose project is \$7.6 million.

5. The Committee on Audit convened to receive a status report on current and follow-up internal audit assignments. This is a routine report given at nearly every Board meeting.
6. The Committee on Institutional Advancement approved three naming requests: the Ramiro Compean and Lupe Diaz Compean Student Union at San Jose State University, the Bob Bennett Stadium at CSU Fresno, and the John D. Welty Center for Educational Policy and Leadership at CSU Fresno. Dr. Welty was present for the naming approval; Welty was the president of CSU Fresno from 1991 to 2013 and has maintained strong connections to the campus.
7. The Committee on Finance had seven items on their agenda; two informational items and five action items (I will cover the two information items first; the five action items were all approved):
  - a. CSU Annual Debt Report on CSU Systemwide Revenue Bonds (SRB) – this report was accepted as part of the consent agenda without discussion; it reports that as of December 31, 2015, the CSU has an outstanding SRB debt of approximately \$4.4 billion. The SRB program provides capital financing for projects such as student housing, parking, student unions, health centers, continuing education facilities, and certain auxiliary projects. This report will be presented again during the May board meeting for approval.

- b. Update on the Sustainable Financial Model Task Force Report – Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer Steve Relyea provided a review of the current contents of this report. He stated that the 19 recommendations in the report can be categorized into five areas but did not provide a breakdown of which initiatives appear in each of the following groups:
  - 1. Short term Implementation initiatives
  - 2. Medium term implementation initiatives
  - 3. Initiatives requiring proposals to the Board
  - 4. Initiatives requiring State and Board approval
  - 5. Initiatives requiring multiple constituent support

I pointed out that changes had continued to be made to this report since the last meeting of the task force on December 9, 2015 and requested that, because of the long term influence of this report on the operation of the CSU, the task force be convened at the earliest possible convenience to review and finalize the report's content.

- c. Issuance of SRBs to cover cost of CSU, San Bernardino Parking Lot N (\$3,725,000).
- d. Conceptual Approval of a Public/Private Partnership Mixed Use Development Project at CSU Fullerton – this is for the development of the College Park site located south of Nutwood Ave. The existing multistory building used by administration and for instruction would remain with the land around it developed to include faculty, staff and student housing, a parking structure, ground floor retail space and possibly some commercial space.
- e. Conceptual Approval of a Public/Private Partnership Faculty/Staff Housing Development Project at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo – this project proposes the construction of up to approximately 420 apartments on a 15-acre site along the southeastern boundary of the campus near the main entrance on Grand Avenue. The site is currently undeveloped and is used for horse grazing.
- f. Conceptual Approval of a Public/Private Partnership for the Junior Giants Urban Youth Academy at San Francisco State University – the San Francisco Giants Community Fund with the assistance of major league baseball have proposed collaborating with San Francisco State to establish the Junior Giants Urban Youth Academy on the campus. The proposed project includes the construction of a youth-size baseball field, a 16,500 sf learning center, a covered infield and batting cages on a 2-acre site that currently has 14 tennis courts used primarily by outside community groups. As part of the agreement, the private partners will provide approximately \$5 million for the improvements as well as the replacement cost of the existing tennis courses at another campus location.
- g. Approval to Issue Trustee Systemwide Revenue Bonds and Related Debt Instruments to Refinance and Restructure State Public Works Board Debt – under the CSU's new authority to issue construction related bonds, the CSU was also given the authority to refinance the construction bond debt that was transferred from the Department of Finance to the CSU. This is the first major step in refinancing that existing debt. Current CSU State Public Works Board bond debt is \$980 million. This approval is to refinance \$773 million of that debt with a cash flow benefit of between \$200 million to \$350 million over a 10-year period. The intent is to use the cash flow benefit funds for capital improvement projects such as deferred maintenance. Since these funds are non-reoccurring, they are not appropriate to cover salary expenses.

During the public comment session, the Finance Committee heard from several representatives from Students for Quality Education who spoke in favor of CFA's bargaining position and in opposition to the recommendations of the Sustainable Financial Model Task Force Report.

8. The Committee on Educational Policy had one action item and three information items:
  - a. The action item was the approval of the CSU Academic Master Plan, campus Academic Plans, and related documents. The CSU and campus Academic Plans list the disciplines for which degree programs are offered or are planning to be offered. The Academic Plans also list degree programs in the process of being phased out (suspension of new admits) or no longer offered (program discontinuance.) The “related documents” contain summaries of WASC accreditation visits, student-learning assessments conducted through program review, and accredited academic programs and departments.
  - b. The first information item was a report on academic preparation. The report started with an overview of the roles of the Early Assessment Program (EAP), CSU proficiency tests – ELM and EPT, standardized tests – SAT, ACT and AP, senior experience guided by EAP, college and college prep courses while in high school, Early Start, and the CSU freshman experience. CSU outreach activities last year served over one million K-14 students.

Over 418,000 eleventh graders participated in EAP (based on Smarter Balanced) during spring 2015. Of these students, over 96,000 demonstrated readiness and an additional 138,000 demonstrated conditional readiness in English Language Arts. About 46,000 students were deemed college ready in math and an additional 75,400 were conditionally ready.

The fall 2015 freshman class was the largest entering class in CSU history at just over 64,000 students and was the best prepared class at fall entry; 55% were ready in both math and English without Early Start; summer Early Start resulted in another 6% being ready in both subjects.

- c. The second information item was a report from the CSU Commission on Extended University. The report started with an overview of the role of extended learning: 200 degree programs including 86 online programs; 16,300 self-support students and 12,500 professional development certificate students annually; eight major satellite locations: Napa, Stockton, downtown SF, Oakland, downtown Fresno, Goleta, downtown LA, and Palm Desert. Videos of a number of student success stories were shown. The commission serves as an advisory group to the Chancellor on issues and opportunities facing extended education. The commission was formed in 1977.
  - d. The third information item was a report by Trustee Fortune on the Fortune School of Education and their newest addition, Middle College High School in the Sacramento region. The concept of a Middle College or Early College high school is one where students graduate with a high school diploma and an associate’s degree or transferable college credit through concurrent enrollment in a partnering community college. There are currently 10 middle college high schools in California. The CCC Chancellor’s Office has called for an expansion of middle college high schools in the state. The Fortune School of Education works closely with local communities to close the African American achievement gap.
9. During a public comment session, the Committee on University and Faculty Personnel heard from Susan Green, a member of the Chico State faculty, who spoke in opposition to the process used to select the new president for Chico. The committee then discussed and approved the executive compensation packages for the new campus presidents of California State University, Channel Islands and California State University, Chico. These presidents were hired at salaries either at or slightly less than their incumbents.
10. The Committee on Governmental Relations convened to hear an update on pending legislative actions. At this time the CSU office of Advocacy and State Relations (ASR) has identified 300 of

the 2,086 pending legislative measures that merit further review. The ASR has identified five major themes of the pending measures:

- a. College affordability – including student success fees, textbook costs, tuition waiver programs
- b. Access – including promise programs and time to degree initiatives
- c. Student safety
- d. Higher education employment concerns
- e. CPEC replacement

During this update, only four measures were specifically mentioned:

- a. SB 1412 – a Board of Trustees sponsored bill to provide the CSU with the potential to increase investment earnings by creating a balanced investment portfolio
- b. AB 2215 – a Board of Trustees sponsored bill to change the government code regarding how state lottery funds are distributed to the CSU
- c. SB 1450 – former trustee Glazer’s bill for a 4-year pathway to graduation
- d. SB 15 – Marty Block’s bill for improving access to higher education in California

11. During the full Board meeting on Wednesday, the Board affirmed passage of the action items mentioned in this report, approved the membership of the Committee on Committees for 2016-2017 (this committee makes recommendations regarding who will serve on which standing committees and who the officers of the Board and its standing committees will be for the next academic year), received the General Counsel’s Annual Litigation Report, and conferred the title of Trustee Emerita on Margaret Fortune for whom this was her last meeting as a trustee. The Board also heard from public speakers and reports from:

- a. The Board Chair – Lou Monville welcomed the four new trustees recently appointed by the governor: Jane Carney, Jean Picker Firstenberg, Thelma Meléndez de Santa Ana and Lateefah Simon, and congratulated Trustee Lillian Kimbell on her reappointment. He thanked the board members who served on the just concluded presidential search committees, recognized the CSU campuses who received high rankings on the Peace Corps’ volunteer lists (Humboldt, SLO and San Diego), and spoke of the passing of SDSU alum Douglas Inman, a renowned pioneer on coastal science research at UCSD.
- b. The Chancellor – Timothy White recognized the appointment of the new presidents to Channel Islands and Chico, the appointment by President Obama of San Marcos faculty member Joely Proudfit to the National Advisory Council on Indian Education, the recent dedication of the Joel and Dena Gambord Business and Information Technology Building at Monterey Bay thanks to an 8-figure donation and how this will aid in the teaching of computer science students, the participation by faculty and students from Fullerton and Sonoma in the research that led to the recent confirmation of the existence of gravitational waves related to black holes, and recent Super Sunday outreach events with campus presidents. He provided an update on San Francisco State’s Project Rebound program to assist formerly incarcerated and paroled individuals receive a college education and how the program is now being expanded to seven additional campuses: Bakersfield, Fresno, Fullerton, Pomona, Sacramento, San Bernardino, and San Diego.
- c. The ASCSU Chair – Steven Filling thanked the C.O. for the return of baseline funding of research, thanked Trustee Eisen for visiting with the ASCSU during the March plenary, and covered the resolutions passed by during the March plenary. Towards the end of his presentation he presented to the Board the results of the 2015 CSUSB Campus Climate Survey, Phase I Report in the form of an executive summary.
- d. The Alumni Council – Council President Dia Poole announced the April 8<sup>th</sup> dinner to honor the service of Trustee Lou Monville, who is departing from the Board in June. She also provided stories of third and fourth generation CSU alumni families.
- e. The CSSA President – Taylor Herren announced the approval of a new CSSA constitution and accompanying reorganization and the search of a new CSSA director. She also covered CSSA advocacy activities including the need for additional CSU funding by the state.

During the public comment session, the Board heard from several students complaining about “pending tuition increases” [I assume this was a reference to a recommendation from the Sustainable Financial Model Task Force regarding tuition]; several non-Unit 3 union representatives expressed their support for CFA and any strike actions CFA may take, but made it clear they would adhere to their collective bargaining agreement clauses not to walk out in support if CFA strikes and they stated that they would not take on extra workload resulting from CFA strike actions; Pat Gantt, CSUEU, made the statement that Sacramento needs to better support the CSU financially; a representative from Unit 9 complained about the high cost of the CSU’s CMS system (PeopleSoft), stating it never met expectations and that no audit was ever performed; there were multiple pleas from staff union representatives for systemwide policies on such issues as bullying, harassment and understaffing; CSU-ERFA President Bill Blischke spoke to their lobbying efforts for more state funds for the CSU and about CSU-ERFA’s involvement in the CSU multi-million shoe campaign – Soles4Souls.

12. After the close of the open session on Wednesday, the Board continued to meet in closed session to discuss executive personnel matters.