IN SUPPORT OF AB 2324 (WILLIAMS) PERTAINING TO CSU FACULTY TRUSTEE

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of the California State University (ASCSU) thank the Board of Trustees for including the Faculty Trustee Holdover Appointment proposal in their Legislative Program for 2014; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the ASCSU express its appreciation to Assembly Member Das Williams for introducing Assembly Bill 2324, *Trustees of the California State University: faculty member of the board*, on February 21, 2014; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the ASCSU request that members of the CSU community register support for AB 2324 as it moves through the legislative process; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the ASCSU distribute this resolution to the CSU Chancellor, CSU Board of Trustees, Assembly Member Das Williams, CSU Office of Advocacy and State Relations, Assembly Committee on Higher Education of the California State Legislature, CSU campus Presidents, CSU campus Senate Chairs, California Faculty Association (CFA), California State Student Association (CSSA), and CSU Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association (ERFA).

RATIONALE: The Faculty Trustee provides the Board of Trustees (BOT) with both expertise and a faculty perspective in areas of academic policy as well as matters of curricular and fiscal concern affecting the CSU. In addition, the presence of a Faculty Trustee strengthens faculty confidence in BOT actions.

In recent years, however, there have been lengthy intervals during which no Faculty Trustee has been appointed to the Board, the longest being the period from 2009 to 2011, which resulted in the Faculty Trustee position staying vacant for an entire 2-year term. This again occurred more recently in the summer and fall of 2013 – a period of several months during which the Board met twice without a Faculty Trustee.

AB 2324 addresses the ongoing concern raised by the ASCSU pertaining to the lack of a faculty trustee on the CSU Board of Trustees, most recently described in the ASCSU resolutions listed below.

AS-3153-13/FGA/FA, Ensuring the Continuous Presence of a Faculty Trustee on the California State University Board of Trustees

AS-3141-13/EX, Concern over Delay in Governor’s Appointment of CSU Faculty Trustee

Approved Unanimously – May 16, 2014
An act to amend Section 66602 of the Education Code, relating to postsecondary education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

AB 2324, as introduced, Williams. Trustees of the California State University: faculty member of the board.

Existing law establishes the various campuses of the California State University under the administration of the Trustees of the California State University. Existing law provides for the membership of the Trustees of the California State University to include 5 specified ex officio members, 16 appointive members appointed by the Governor and subject to confirmation by the Senate, one representative of the alumni associations, 2 student members appointed by the Governor, and a faculty member appointed by the Governor. Existing law establishes that the 2-year term of office of a faculty member commences July 1, and expires on June 30, 2 years thereafter.

This bill would allow a faculty member to remain on the board after his or her 2-year term expires for one additional 2-year term if the Governor has not appointed a successor, as specified.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 66602 of the Education Code is amended to read:

66602. (a) The board shall be composed of the following five ex officio members: the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Speaker of the Assembly, and the person named by the trustees to serve as the Chancellor of the California State University; a representative of the alumni associations of the state university, selected for a two-year term by the alumni council, California State University, which representative shall not be an employee of the California State University during the two-year term; and 16 appointive members appointed by the Governor and subject to confirmation by two-thirds of the membership of the Senate.

(b) (1) Two students from the California State University, who shall have at least sophomore year standing at the institutions they attend, and who remain in good standing as students during their respective terms, shall also be appointed by the Governor to serve on the board for two-year terms.

(2) In the selection of students as members of the board, the Governor shall appoint the students from lists of names of at least two, but not more than five, persons furnished by the governing board of any statewide student organization that represents the students of the California State University and the student body organizations of the campuses of the California State University. Any appointment to fill a vacancy of a student member shall be effective only for the remainder of the term of the student member’s office that became vacated.

(3) The term of office of one student member of the board shall commence on July 1 of an even-numbered year and expire on June 30 two years thereafter. The term of office of the other student member of the board shall commence on July 1 of an odd-numbered year and expire on June 30 two years thereafter. Notwithstanding paragraph (1), a student member who graduates from his or her college or university on or after January 1 of the second year of his or her term of office may serve the remainder of the term.

(4) (A) During the first year of a student member’s term, a student member shall be a member of the board and may attend
all meetings of the board and its committees. At these meetings, a student member may fully participate in discussion and debate, but may not vote. During the second year of a student member’s term, a student member may exercise the same right to attend meetings of the board, and its committees, and shall have the same right to vote as the members appointed pursuant to subdivision (a).

(B) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), during the first year of a student member’s term, the student member may vote at a board meeting if the other student member is absent from that meeting due to illness, a family emergency, or a medical emergency.

(5) Notwithstanding paragraph (4), if a student member resigns from office or a vacancy is otherwise created in that office during the second year of a student member’s term, the remaining student member shall immediately assume the office created by the vacancy and all of the participation privileges of the second-year student member, including the right to vote, for the remainder of that term of office.

(6) A student member shall have his or her tuition fee waived for the duration of his or her term of office.

(c) (1) A faculty member from the California State University, who shall be tenured at the California State University campus at which he or she teaches, shall also be appointed by the Governor to serve on the board for a two-year term. In the selection of a faculty member as a member of the board, the Governor shall appoint the faculty member from a list of names of at least two persons furnished by the Academic Senate of the California State University.

(2) The faculty member of the board appointed by the Governor pursuant to this subdivision shall not participate on any subcommittee of the board responsible for collective bargaining negotiations.

(3) The two-year term of office of the faculty member of the board shall commence on July 1, and shall expire on June 30 two years thereafter and the faculty member may remain in office after the term expires for one additional two-year term if the Governor has not appointed a successor under paragraph (1).