Report on Academic Senate CSU Plenary Meeting
January 20-22, 2016
Catherine Nelson, SSU Statewide Senator

Resolutions Passed

AS-3237-15/FGA CSU Acknowledgement of California Taxpayers as University Donors: This resolution encourages campus Senates, campus Advancement/Philanthropy offices and the Chancellor’s office to find ways to acknowledge the role of taxpayers in funding the CSU.

AS-3238-15/AA Role of California State University Faculty in the Evaluation of Courses for Transfer: This resolution stems from concerns raised by campus senate chairs about the implications for course transferability raised by AB 386, CSU Fully Online Courses and the advent of upper division GE courses in CCC BA degree programs. It affirms that campus curricula and the satisfactory completion of degree requirements are the purview of local campus faculty. It also encourages campus academic senates to develop policies or review existing policies for transfer of courses that: ensure the primacy of faculty in establishing the criteria for, and evaluation of, the transferability of courses; ensure communication between articulation officers, academic advisors, department chairs and curricular and shared governance bodies; maintain a clear and transparent process to meet degree requirements; facilitate progress toward graduation; and allow for the re-evaluation of articulated courses by faculty. Passed unanimously.

AS-3239-15/FA Inclusion of Non-Tenure Track Instructional Faculty in Faculty Orientation Programs: This resolution advocates for the inclusion of lecturers in annual and semi-annual faculty orientation days (including these days as part of compensated contractual time). It also encourages campuses, in the context of faculty orientation, make available to all lecturers and non-tenure-track faculty information such as teaching resources and other materials relevant to student success, general campus resource information, and specific materials relevant to the rights and benefits and professional opportunities available to CSU lecturers. Passed unanimously.

AS-3240-15/FA/FGA Request for Joint Task Force to Develop an Action Plan for Ongoing Tenure/Tenure Track Recruitment: This resolution thanks the Board of Trustees, Chancellor, Governor and Legislature for recognizing the need to increase tenure/tenure-density in the CSU and for providing in the 2015-16 budget, baseline funding specifically targeted for the hire of tenure-track faculty. The resolution further calls upon the Chancellor, working with the ASCSU, to establish a joint task force for the purpose of developing a multi-year plan to increase tenure/tenure-track density in the CSU, while maintaining or reducing the student to faculty ratio. It also asks that the California Faculty Association be invited to have members serve on the Task Force. Passed unanimously.
AS-3242-16/EX Acceptance of the ICAS Statement on Preparation in Natural Science Expected of Entering Freshman: The Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates (made up of the executive committees of the statewide academic senates of the UC, CSU and CCC) creates competency statements as a means to advise high school students and their families about what kind of intellectual preparation is necessary for success in California higher Education. Competency statements are submitted to the statewide senates of each segment for acceptance or rejection (but not for amendment). This resolution indicates the ASCSU’s acceptance of the ICAS Statement on Competencies in the Natural Sciences Expected of Entering Freshmen, and commends the ICAS task force for their efforts to develop a statement that reflects Next Generation Science Standards and provides a greater focus on student learning outcomes. ICAS competency statements are available at: http://icas-ca.org/competencies. Passed unanimously.

AS-3243-16/FGA Commendation for Karen Y. Zamarripa – Assistant Vice Chancellor, CSU Advocacy and State Relations This resolution commends AVC Zamarripa for her advocacy efforts on behalf of the CSU during her 25 years with the system. Passed unanimously.

AS-3247-16/FA Restoring Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activities (RSCA) Funds as a Line Item in the CSU Operations Budget: In 2009-10, the CSU suspended funding for the Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities program. In 2010-11 funds were allocated again, but suspended again in 2011-12. Funds remained suspended until 2014-15, when $2.4m in funding was re-instmted for the program, but not as a permanent line item in the budget. This resolution urges the Chancellor’s Office to restore RSCA funds as a permanent line item in the CSU Operations Budget.

First Reading Resolutions

AS-3241-16/APEP A Need for Analysis of the Data Related to Changing Demographics of California State University: Given the increased demands to reduce time to degree completion and close the achievement gap, this resolution calls for a task force to examine and analyze the existing student demographic data and determine the implications for students’ abilities to meet these demands.

AS-3244-16/APEP Support for Four Years of Mathematics as a Requirement for Admission to the California State University: The CSU currently requires three years of high school math for admission to the CSU. This resolution calls for the CSU to require a fourth year of high school mathematics/quantitative reasoning as a requirement for admission to the CSU. It also calls for a mathematics/quantitative course to be completed as part of the senior (final) year of high school.

AS-3245-16/AA Selection of Faculty to Serve on Campus Honorary Degree Committees: At its November 2015 meeting, the CSU Board of Trustees approved an
Honorary Degree Policy that, among other things, specifies the process for the selection of faculty representatives on campus honorary degree committees. This resolution asserts that faculty representatives serving on campus honorary degree committees should be selected by faculty. It also expresses concern that the Trustees’ policy authorizing campus presidents to select faculty in consultation with faculty, rather than authorizing faculty to select their own representatives, violates AS-3160-13/EX/FA Selection of Faculty representatives in Shared Governance and the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) Statement on Government of Colleges and Universities.

**AS-3246-16/EX Promoting Inclusion Within the CSU Community:** This resolution affirms the ASCSU’s commitment to promoting an inclusive CSU community, acknowledges the negative consequences of workplace bullying and urges the Chancellor, campus presidents, provosts and vice presidents of Academic Affairs to continue to expand policies and explore strategies that promote inclusive workplace environments. It also urges campus senates to engage in conversations that are conducive to promoting inclusivity to promote respect for the dignity of all CSU community members.

The full text of resolutions approved by the ASCSU is available at:
http://calstate.edu/AcadSen/Records/Resolutions/