

# ASCSU January Plenary Report

January 16-17, 2025

## **Civil Rights Programming and Services, Update on Conduct of Concern:**

Interim Vice Chancellor for HR, Al Liddicoat, and Hayley Schwartzkopf, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Civil Rights Programming and Services, provided an update on three topics that would be discussed at the January Board of Trustees meeting. First, a Civil Rights Program review was conducted at 5 locations: Chico, Maritime, Bakersfield, Long Beach, and Pomona. This is a systemwide report that will be made public, contain the best practices, and acknowledge the staffing challenges faced by campuses. It was mentioned training is another important area of need due to training not at a high level of compliance with students and employees. Second are the recommendations from the Cal State Auditor with a January 2025 completion date. All those recommendations are on track to completion at the end of January.

A new Data Dashboard with aggregate data on concerns, reports, complaints, and investigations will be available on the Civil Rights Programming and Services website. Each campus will have a dashboard with their data. The faculty viewed the example data screen and asked about further disaggregating data and differences in complaint and investigation numbers. A recommendation from faculty was made to also leverage statistical models to identify areas for improvement by analyzing statistically significant differences in data.

**Chancellor's Office-Student Affairs & Academic Affairs:** An update was provided by Dilcie Perez, Deputy Vice Chancellor of Academic and Student Affairs & Chief Student Affairs Officer, and Nathan Evans, Deputy Vice Chancellor of Academic and Student Affairs & Chief Academic Officer. They began by acknowledging many unknowns regarding the impact of the fire emergency facing Los Angeles. They had just received a report that 52 community members had lost homes and recognized the uncertainty. They are trying to find ways to support the impacted faculty, staff, and students.

In addition, the system is trying to focus on the vulnerabilities and impacts of the federal administration on LGBTQ+ students and our undocumented students and the impact on the student experience. Across the system, mental health services are significantly being used. Students are scared to go to school and work because of raids occurring in Bakersfield. A focus is on supporting all students, specifically providing flexible support without breaking laws. The Chancellor's office is supporting to get resources out to the community. The California Dream Act application continues to provide undocumented students access to state and institutional aid, even if they are ineligible for federal aid. Faculty asked to be provided with guidelines about ICE or law enforcement coming to campus.

Disappointment was expressed over the announcement of a 7.95% budget cut.

A new initiative, an AI Workforce Board, is being created, connected to the Year of Engagement, enrollment management, and strategic planning. The hope is to bring together AI companies in CA and work together to develop the workforce. It is meant to create a space for dialogue about AI.

**Charles Toombs, CFA President, Liaison Report:** CFA President stated a variety of meetings are planned with legislators to share stories about the impact the proposed budget cuts would have on students and the faculty. CFA will advocate for the restoration of the CSU budget. In the past, CFA put out an equity paper, *Race to the Bottom*, which influenced funding for CSU and is preparing for a second paper to come out soon. In addition, CFA is working on educating our colleagues on the issues. CFA is also monitoring efforts by state legislation to reduce ethnic studies from K-12 through Higher Education and ensure that faculty experts in ethnic studies are part of the conversation. CFA is in the early stages of bargaining for a complete contract renewal and has elected a bargaining team from every campus.

**Deloitte-Update on Year of Engagement:** Dilcie Perez, Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic & Student Affairs, Chief Student Affairs Officer, Bob Caron, Deloitte and Anna Jablonski, Deloitte presented a prepared slide deck, but slides were not provided. Key findings are 1) redefine student success; 2) focus on teaching and learning as part of the solution; 3) use data to better meet students where they are; 4) ensure student resources are easy to access. It contained an initial draft of the new framework for student success. The new framework will include a definition of student success and six commitments.

**Update on CSU Support and Resources for Undocumented Students:** Ray Murillo, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs Equity & Belonging provided an update on resources for undocumented students. These resources have been in place since 2016, including campus contacts, links to free legal services, assistance with residency, financial and admission processes.

In compliance with the 2017 Ed code, each campus must have a designated individual to contact if federal officers approach with a warrant or if immigration officers are observed on campus. Information on these designees is expected to be shared by campuses in the coming weeks. Resources for Undocumented Students are available on [this site](#). The CSU Learn undocu-ally training is an older version, but it is still available. They are working on updating it. A class is not "open to the public," and permission from the instructor must be given. An active classroom is NOT a public space if a class is occurring even on a public institution.

This link within the site provided by Ray Murillo may be of interest. [Here is a FAQ for California State University Employees About Federal Immigration Enforcement Actions on University Property - December 5, 2024](#)

**CSU Trustees Jazmin Guajardo:** Trustee Guajardo provided the senate with the story of her trajectory as a student in Lobby Core, an ASI student leader, a VP, and now a student trustee. As Jazmin stated about her trajectory in the CSU, "I feel engaged." Faculty thanked Jazmin for the letter written to the Governor regarding proposed nursing program legislation. Jazmin's priorities as a trustee are to remove unnecessary financial and administrative barriers for students.

**Federal and State Legislative updates: Current and Anticipated status for CSU:** Greg Saks, Vice Chancellor, External Relations & Communications, Jeff Cullen, Assistant Vice Chancellor Federal Relations & Nathan Dietrich, Assistant Vice Chancellor Advocacy & State Relations provided reports.

**State:** In the last legislative session, the CSU had some accomplishments, such as the authority to offer applied doctoral degrees (i.e., Doctor of Nursing Practice, Physical Therapy) without needing to ask the legislation for approval. Flexibility was also provided for professional and continuing education programs, allowing the CSU to enhance its offerings. Challenges existed, and our advocacy ensured that community colleges' desire to offer duplicative bachelor's degrees did not occur as evidenced by Governor Newsom's veto of two bills. The CSU has made progress on the state audit recommendations for Title IX recommendations and is on track to meet those recommendations.

Moving forward, the CSU faces a legislative session that has a proposed \$375 million budget cut. Some key focus areas for the CSU Board of Trustees are impacts from federal administration, community college bachelor's degrees, affordable housing, capital needs, and AI. In addition, the devastation from the fires in Southern CA has also added to the challenges, as many colleagues and their families have lost homes. Legislative liaisons are reaching out to academic leaders and faculty to ensure representation of views.

**Federal:** Jeff Cullen is new to the office and began just 3 months ago. The Office of Federal Relations (OFR) in Washington, D.C., advocates CSU interests by collaborating with federal partners, such as the administration, Congress, the California delegation, and professional associations. It also collaborates with campus legislative liaisons and state colleagues to align federal and state advocacy strategies.

Due to the new administration narrowly controlling Congress, legislative and budgetary changes are expected to be moderate. Still, OFR anticipates increased scrutiny of higher education, particularly elite institutions, and cuts to domestic discretionary spending, including potential reductions in Department of Education funding.

OFR's priorities include monitoring legal and policy developments affecting undocumented students, ensuring compliance with ICE regulations, and addressing new Title IX rulings. Additionally, it is responding to legislative challenges, such as a House-passed bill requiring student-athletes to compete based on gender assigned at birth, which may create compliance issues for CSU campuses. The OFR remains dedicated to opposing legislation that conflicts with CSU's values.

Faculty asked about deferred maintenance issues. It was stated that deferred maintenance continues to be an issue. Usually, bond measures are used for this, and the CSU was left out of the last bond AB 48 (Alvarez) [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202520260AB48](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB48)

The faculty asked how we could assist with these efforts, and all three presenters welcomed faculty support.

**Update EO 1099, Article 7:** Mandara Savage, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Professional and Continuing Education, provided an update on the changes to Executive Order 1099. The policy has already undergone significant consultation with stakeholders and is nearing the final stages. The policy has been updated to address the issue between Article 7, item D, and the graduate blended program policy.

The PACE Fellows program is on hiatus and not defunded. The hope is to integrate better and leverage the fellows' expertise to achieve the program's broader objectives.

**Chancellor Visit to ASCSU:** Chancellor Garcia is thankful for the opportunity to address the Senate and offered condolences to those impacted by recent wildfires. She reaffirmed CSU's role in supporting affected students, faculty, and staff, highlighting efforts such as emergency housing and other resources. The Chancellor also acknowledged concerns about the Governor's proposed 7.95% budget cut, emphasizing the CSU's commitment to advocacy and planning with other universities for potential impacts.

The Chancellor's Office would also absorb its share of budget cuts and noted ongoing advocacy efforts to mitigate impacts on instruction and programs. Current collaboration with other campus presidents is occurring along with securing other supplemental funding when possible. The CSU needs 31 billion dollars for various projects; half of the facilities are over 50 years old. Crafting a strategic plan that is updated for the next 3 years and defining a vision for the future and identity of the CSU is essential. The strategic planning process is now moving into phase 2. The Chancellor stressed the importance of building relationships with legislators and engaging faculty, staff, and students in advocacy efforts to emphasize CSU's value as an investment in California's future, such as the AI initiative with tech companies in CA.

**CSSA Liaison Report:** Tara Al-Rehani, CSSA Vice President of Systemwide Affairs, updated the upcoming Plenary on January 25-26 at San Francisco State. Action items include affordable housing for students, financial barriers, affordable course materials, and a white paper by the executive team and staff.

### Other Items of Interest:

- [Higher Education Governor's Budget Summary Document](#)
- CFA filed a [PERB complaint](#) concerning the handling of Cal-GETC.
- Cal State LA is an early adopter of [Alethea](#)

### Resolutions:

#### [AS-3725-24/APEP Csu Ge Vs. Cal-Getc In Csu Policy](#)

##### **Resolution Approved**

Calls for the Chancellor's Office to establish a workgroup to resolve inconsistencies in current CSU General Education policy language related to Cal-GETC and CSU GE Breadth.

#### [AS-3723-24/AA/JEDI First-Year Seminars](#)

##### **Resolution Approved**

The ASCSU requests that the Chancellor's Office promote the creation of three-unit, first-year, seminarstyle experiences (FYE) at each CSU. Research evidence documents that FYE significantly improves retention, belonging, and graduation—especially for students of color, first-generation students, students with conditional admission, and students with undeclared majors—and often introduces students to life-long learning.

#### [AS-3721-24/FA Resolution On Csu-Wide Budget Transparency](#)

**Resolution Approved**

Advocates for campus audits to be conducted by credible, external, auditing firms such as KPMG and for the auditors to provide opportunities for dialogue with stakeholders as part of shared governance. Furthermore, the resolution asks that a publicly available CSU transparency portal be developed displaying expenditures and cash transfers. The Chancellor's Office is encouraged to establish quarterly conference calls to review expenditures and the budgets after the close of each fiscal quarter. Finally, the ASCSU urges the CSU to restore any discontinued annual reports.

[AS-3718-24/APEP Financial Aid Processes are Under Resourced: Need for Support](#)**Resolution Approved**

Urges the Chancellor's Office to provide sufficient resources to campus financial aid offices to address equity issues and ensure the timely processing of financial aid packages for students, which are essential for student recruitment, retention, and success, especially for underrepresented student groups.

[AS-3730-24/APEP Addressing Exclusion Of The Mathematics For Elementary School Teachers Course\(S\) From Cal-Getc Standards](#)**Waiver approved; Resolution Approved**

Advocates for the re-assessment of Mathematics for Elementary School Teachers course content and its inclusion in Cal-GETC. It also requests the exclusion of verbiage that implies Mathematics for Teachers course content is limited to elementary school level mathematics.

**First reading items:**[AS-3731-25/APEP/JEDI Resolution to Support Proposal Non-Additive Ethnic Studies Admission Requirement](#)

This resolution supports the proposal before the University of California (UC) Academic Assembly for a non-additive ethnic studies admission requirement as part of the existing A-G admissions criteria. This will enhance student success, promote a diverse admissions pipeline, and provide guidance to California K-12 teachers as they implement the statewide ethnic studies graduation requirement ([AB 101](#)).

[AS-3728-25/APEP Resource Needs to Support \(ASSIST\) Effectively](#)

This resolution requests the CSU Chancellor's office to prioritize updating the ASSIST information. The ASSIST system is critical in providing articulation agreements and transfer course lists in facilitating the transfer process.

[AS-3727-25/Exec Academic Senate Of The CSU 2025-2026 Proposed meeting schedule](#)

This is the first reading of the proposed meeting schedule for 2025-2026 ASCSU.

[AS-3726-25/Exec Apportionment Of Academic Senate CSU Seats](#)

Each year, the ASCSU is required by ASCSU bylaw 9 to approve the apportionment/reapportionment of Senate seats among campuses based on Full-Time Equivalent Faculty (FTEF) from the Fall 2024 data. According to the chart provided in the resolution, the Cal State LA Senate seats will remain unchanged at two (2).