



INTERSEGMENTAL COMMITTEE OF ACADEMIC SENATES

ICAS Videoconference Minutes

November 29, 2018

<http://icas-ca.org/>

In Attendance:

California State University Senate: Catherine Nelson – Chair; Robert Keith Collins – Vice Chair; Simone Aloisio - Secretary; Jodie Ullman – Member-at-Large; Praveen Soni – Member-at-Large

California Community College Senate: John Stankas – President; Dolores Davison – Vice President; Virginia May – Treasurer; Craig Rutan – Secretary; Silvester Henderson – At-Large Representative

University of California Senate: Robert May – Chair; Kum-Kum Bhavnani – Vice Chair; Anne Zanzucchi – UCEP Chair; Darlene Francis – UCOPE Chair

Staff: Krystinne Mica – CCC Senate; Hillary Baxter – UC Senate; Brenda Abrams – UC Senate

I. Reports from Senate Leadership

President Stankas reported that the CCC Senate has passed a variety of resolutions and there are ongoing discussions about efforts to diversify faculty. Work on the Course Identification (C-ID) project is moving forward and President Stankas thanked UC and CSU for support during last year's budget cycle to get funding for the project.

Chair Nelson shared that the CSU Senate passed a resolution to set up standards for course evaluation reviewers. The reviewers need to have tenure, be on tenure track or in the early retirement program. Executive Order 1100 documents what defines consultation and the process for consultation systemwide. The Senate passed a Resolution regarding the notification of parties whose information is requested in a California Public Records Act and has worked with the administration to try to limit requestors' access to identifying information. There will be a process to notify faculty or staff whose information might be subject to such a request. Executive Order 1100 is also related to standardizing lower division General Education (GE) across campuses. Campuses should exercise their rights to only implement requirements as they relate to existing programs. The focus includes increasing graduation rates, closing equity gaps for under-represented minorities (URMs), and using graduation rates as a measure of student success. The Senate is also trying to straighten out the process for participating in the C-ID project.

Chair May reported that the Title IX procedures from the Department of Education will be much more prescriptive than UC policy on sexual violence and sexual harassment, and will weigh the respondent's rights over the claimant's. The Senate is dealing with a governance issue related to the area d subject requirement. The provost believes that the three proposed changes to area d will dissuade URMs from applying to UC. The changes to area d have been approved by the Senate and will need to be approved by the Regents but the administration is not in favor of this. The Senate will look at more data related to eligibility to see if the administration's perspective is correct.

UC is in negotiations with the publisher Elsevier and UC's focus is on building in open access, however Elsevier is threatening to end UC's contract effective October 2019. Access to Elsevier journals is important to STEM faculty and UC's librarians are working diligently to find access to alternative materials for faculty. The Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools is working on a proposal for the Transfer Guarantee. The Committee on Educational Policy will propose a systemwide policy for



awarding degrees posthumously. UC is also in contract negotiations with represented librarians who are bargaining for academic freedom.

II. Consent Calendar

Action: The October meeting minutes were approved.

Action: Today's agenda was approved.

III. Planning for Legislative Advocacy Day

February 20th has been confirmed as the best date for the majority of ICAS members. The group should identify the legislators to meet with and discuss potential talking points.

Discussion: Members considered which legislators and staffers are the priorities for Legislative Day visits. The list includes several assembly members and higher education staffers from the governor's office, the Legislative Analyst's Office and the Department of Finance. The committee began to identify topics to discuss with the visitors and whether the focus will be on responding to proposed bills or on advancing ICAS' agenda. Chair May suggested that a core issue is transfer and the budget each segment needs to support efforts related to transfers, such as outreach, might be described.

President Stankas would like ICAS to recommend that transfer from the CCC to UC should be weighted and funded the same as transfer to the CSU. The group should encourage legislators to re-imagine student financial aid across the segments. A central focus of the talking points will be budget and resources. Another talking point will be about student's basic needs as they relate to academic success. ICAS may be asked about the use of standardized tests.

The plan is for ICAS to be joined by the visitors in a hearing room at the Capitol. The visits will start at 9 AM and each visit will be from 20 to 30 minutes with a short break between them. Vice Chair Bhavnani or another point person will be tasked with wrapping up each visit to keep the schedule on track. The biographies of ICAS members will be available as a handout to minimize the time spent on introductions. Several videoconferences will be scheduled to continue planning for February 20th and the details for the day will be finalized during the February 7th ICAS videoconference.

IV. Balancing Standardization with Flexibility in Curriculum

Chair Nelson recommends that ICAS discuss how to respond to questions about curricular differences between the three segments.

Discussion: The standardization of curriculum is becoming a bigger issue and it relates to the needs of California. Explaining why there are different GE requirements is important. One suggestion is to share the history of the pathways and their connection to the Master Plan for Higher Education. Legislators may be unaware of this history but students eventually understand the important differences. Students gain the ability to communicate across class boundaries. How the same requirements are met in different ways needs to be made clear. The value of GE can be demonstrated by showing how it maps to degrees. Vice Chair Collins remarked that having a degree helps individuals get a job and GE enables one to interact interpersonally.



There are issues with how this information is communicated to legislators and ICAS should present a united front. The segments need to be dynamic and show that we are flexible and can change and grow. Vice Chair Collins agreed to draft a document based on this discussion which might be shared on Legislative Day. The document should be brief and succinct and could also be shared with other faculty.

V. Planning for Presentations on Standardized Tests

ICAS members have agreed to have presentations on different standardized tests, including the Smarter Balance Assessment, during the May 29th meeting in Oakland. Chair May will update the committee on the work of UC's standardized testing task force. The committee should discuss who else should be invited to give presentations.

Discussion: Chair Nelson recommends that information about the usefulness of standardized tests for predicting success and the biases in the tests is needed. ICAS should invite presenters with different perspectives as well as representatives from the SAT and ACT. Chair May indicated that Saul Geysler from UCB has written about bias and how the tests have no predictive value. Steve Handel was at UCOP and is now with the College Board. The CSU administration has not yet talked about the use of standardized tests. The presentations should be separate and about one hour long.

VI. Definition of Diversity

The idea of creating a definition of diversity has come up during past ICAS meetings. The CSU does not have a definition of diversity but it is a theme in much of what the CSU does.

Discussion: It is not clear if the CCCs have an official definition of diversity. Perhaps ICAS could agree that the UC Regents' definition should be put forward for adoption. It is also important to articulate the extent to which the three Senates value diversity. This discussion will be continued at a future meeting.

Meeting adjourned at: 12 PM
Minutes prepared by: Brenda Abrams
Attest: Robert May