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**ICAS Minutes of Meeting**

**December 13, 2016**

**USC State Capitol Center, Sacramento, CA**

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

**In Attendance:**

CCC Senate: Julie Bruno, President; John Stanskas, Vice President; Dolores Davison, Secretary; John Freitas, Treasurer; Virginia May, Representative North; Julie Adams, Executive Director

CSU Senate: Christine Miller, Chair; Catherine Nelson, Vice Chair; Robert Keith Collins, Secretary; Kevin Baaske, Member-at-Large; Thomas Krabacher, Member-at-Large; Steven Filling, Former Chair

UC Senate: Jim Chalfant, Chair; Shane White, Vice Chair; Henry Sanchez, BOARS Chair; Barbara Knowlton, UCEP Chair; Bradley Queen, UCOPE Chair; Hilary Baxter, Executive Director

Staff: Miguel Rother, ASCCC

Annie Wilcox, ASCCC

Guests: Lark Park, Governor’s Office

Leslie Kennedy, California State University Chancellor’s Office

Mike Kirst, President, State Board of Education

Dan Crump, American River College

1. **Announcements**

ICAS Chair, Julie Bruno, President of the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC), welcomed members and guests.

1. **Consent Calendar**

* December 13, 2016 ICAS Agenda
* September 23, 2016 ICAS Minutes

**ACTION:** ICAS approved the consent calendar.

1. **Quantitative Reasoning Task Force (CSU)**

CSU Chair Miller updated members regarding the Quantitative Reasoning Task Force (QRTF) report. The QRTF report was received by the Academic Senate of the California State University (ASCSU) during their September plenary. The report was sent to CSU campuses for feedback from faculty, and the CSU Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs requested that the ASCSU draft an FAQ to assist faculty with questions surrounding implications or interpretations of the report.

The CSU Chancellor’s Office is working towards creating a Center for the Advancement of Instruction in Quantitative Reasoning as outlined in recommendation IV of the QRTF report. The ASCSU expressed concern about the level of faculty involvement for the implementation of the report’s recommendations. As a result, the ASCSU approved a resolution, advocating that the Office of the Chancellor, in collaboration with the ASCSU, engage appropriate stakeholders during the implementation of the QRTF recommendations. The group discussed the importance that faculty remain involved in this process, as well as strategies to keep this issue within faculty purview.

1. **COOL4Ed/CA OERC/AB 798 Update**

*Leslie Kennedy, California State University Chancellor’s Office*

The California Open Educational Resources Council (CA-OERC) created and released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for Assembly Bill AB 798 College Textbook Affordability Act of 2015 (Bonilla, 2016). In order to assist colleges interested in submitting a proposal for AB 798 funding, CA-OERC conducted a series of webinars, held regional meetings, and updated the California Open Online Library for Education (COOL4Ed) website with resources for campuses interested in receiving funding. CA-OERC received numerous submissions from both the CCC and CSU, ultimately awarding approximately $848,000 to each segment. Of the $3 million in incentive funds made available by the Hewlett and Gates Foundation grant, there is still approximately $1.7 million left. COOL4Ed will enact a second phase of funding to be awarded to colleges that have met or exceeded their Request for Proposal (RFP) targets during the first phase. The RFP for AB 798 stipulated that colleges that received funding must designate a Textbook Affordability Campus Coordinator (TACC). Concerns were raised that there was a communication barrier between the ASCCC and CA-OERC regarding AB 798. A suggestion was made to have an ASCCC OER Taskforce representative involved with the TACC group in an effort to open the lines of communication, and provide support to CCC faculty involved with the project.

Since the Hewlett and Gates grants have decided to shift focus to AB 798, the CA-OERC will cease activities December 31, 2016. However, a section of the Education Code which established the Council, includes a provision allowing for ICAS to form a successor group to oversee the duties of the Council. The group discussed whether to reconstitute CA-OERC or create a new group to oversee funding in the second phase. ICAS was also asked to consider whether its website should still maintain a webpage associated with the historical work of CA-OERC or should the information be migrated to cool4ed.org. Since ICAS was referenced in legislation for this project, and in order to maintain the integrity of the work that was completed and approved by ICAS, the group agreed the information should be kept on the ICAS website, while including a link between the two sites.

*Members were advised that an electronic copy of the report given by Leslie Kennedy, California State University Chancellor's Office, would be* *forthcoming.*

**ACTION: By consensus, CA-OERC information will remain on the ICAS website with links posted between both sites. Bruno, Miller, and Chalfant will discuss moving forward with respect to the structure and framework of CA-OERC and provide an update at the next ICAS meeting.**

1. **Mike Kirst, President, State Board of Education (SBE)**

Kirst discussed current events within the State Board of Education (SBE). The SBE examined various methods to help ease the transition for K-12 students entering the higher education system. In order to improve college preparation and student success, the SBE is conducting a significant overhaul to curriculum by redesigning skill, content, and basic theory in all four major core areas. In addition, the SBE is moving towards the use of the Smarter Balanced Interim Assessment System. This new assessment system contains three major components including: summative assessments, formative assessment practices, and interim assessments. The system utilizes computer-adaptive and performance tasks, which allow students to demonstrate their skills and knowledge. Moreover, the SBE is set to launch the California Next Generation Science Standards (CA-NGSS) pilot program in Spring 2017. The CA-NGSS summative assessment is designed to demonstrate a student’s ability to use science and engineering practices to understand science in a three-dimensional way. Kirst asks that the UC and CSU segments consider the Smarter Balanced Interim Assessment System to satisfy comprehensive admission requirements.

In recent years the K-12 system experienced a drastic shortage in teachers, and would like to collaborate more with the higher education segments to raise the number of qualified K-12 teachers. The group discussed strategies to improve collaboration in order to channel information from higher education to the K-12 system, while increasing the number of qualified graduates to teach the new K-12 curriculum.

1. **ACR 158 (Holden, 2016): Postsecondary education: transfers (CSU)**

Chair Miller provided a brief background on a recent hearing of ACR 158. The hearing centered on the experience of one CSU student who changed his major and had challenges with transferring between CSUs (San Jose to Dominguez Hills). During the hearing, the student shared that some of the general education courses he took at CSU San Jose would not transfer to CSU Dominguez Hills. In response to ACR 158, the ASCSU approved resolution AS-3268-16,which maintains the ASCSUs commitment to improve student transfer, and requests that members of the California State Senate and Assembly consult with the ASCSU when legislative actions have potential impact to the CSU system. A suggestion was made that ICAS draft a letter or resolution to bring more awareness to the resolution. The chair from each segment agreed to discuss ACR 158 further to develop a course of action going forward.

**ACTION: Miller, Bruno, and Chalfant will discuss this issue further before drafting a letter or resolution.**

1. **Reports from Senate Leadership**

**Christine Miller, Chair, CSU Academic Senate**

ASCSU Chair, Christine Miller, highlighted recent events that took place within the California State University System:

* The ASCSU recently held their plenary, approving several resolutions. One of which unanimously approved conveying support for the Board of Trustees (BOT) budget request for the coming academic year. This resolution requests that the CSU Chancellor’s Office earmark $75 million of the budget request to support the Graduation Initiative 2025 while helping to solve the tenure density issue the CSU is experiencing.
* The CSU proposed a tuition increase for the 2017-2018 academic year. The ASCSU currently has a first reading resolution which opposes the tuition increase and argues that even a small increase can be a significant burden to students. Particularly underrepresented and vulnerable student populations.
* Assistant Vice Chancellor Christine Mallon invited the ASCSU to participate in a Quantitative Reasoning Shared Governance Communication Group.
* The ASCSU approved a resolution calling for the creation of an ASCSU task force to examine, offer suggestions, and report on General Education (GE) programs system wide. The work of such a task force could help maintain currency in GE programs, identify best practices, and identify ways to coordinate transferability of GE courses.
* In response to memorandum ASA-2016-8, which imposed a grade minimum of C- in the “Golden Four” (written communication, oral communication mathematical/quantitative reasoning and critical thinking), the ASCSU approved a resolution recommending the adoption of a system wide rule that a grade lower than C- in the “Golden Four” will not yield CSU GE credit.
* ASCSU faculty representatives are meeting to discuss recommendations in response to the CSU Chancellor’s Office draft academic freedom policy.
* In response to Senate Bill 412 (Glazer, 2016), ten CSU campuses will begin to implement four-year pledge programs known as “The California Promise Program”. All but one of the campuses will be implementing 2-year pledge programs.
* Beginning June 2017, the CSU is moving away from the current student enrollment website csumentor.edu, and directing students towards a new enrollment site -- calstateapply.
* The CSUs Chief Information Officer (CIO) developed an IT strategic plan that establishes IT priorities in the CSU system for the next 36 months. The group discussed possibly inviting the Chief Information Officers from each segment to a future meeting, in order to discuss the creation of a storage repository known as a data lake that all segments could use for the tracking of data, such as graduation rates.

**Jim Chalfant, Chair, UC Academic Senate**

University of California Chair, Jim Chalfant, shared recent events taking place within the University of California System:

* The UC Board of Regents will be meeting in January 2017, to discuss the budget agreement and the requirement to create a policy which will limit nonresident undergraduate enrollments.
* The Board of Regents recently met to discuss a potential tuition increase of 2.5% for in state students. Student protests disrupted the meeting and the Board of Regents is expected to continue the conversation at a later date.
* UCAS worked closely with the UC IT department to address faculty concerns regarding the lack of faculty involvement during the implementation of a system-wide cybersecurity threat detection program that was put into place in response to a 2015 security breach at the UCLA campus.
* In relation to tenure density, there was discussion to change the title of the Lecturer of Security of Employment (LSOE) to Professor of Teaching. However, the University Committee on Academic Personnel finds the use of the term “Professor” problematic. Discussions will continue regarding the discrepancy of language.
* The 2016-17 budget created $2 million dollars for increasing faculty diversity, and $4 million for the UC Scout program which is intended to expand access to A-G coursework for under-resourced high schools.
* A system wide review of a proposal to end the UC-wide moratorium on honorary degrees is currently on hold due to the Board of Regents schedule.
* UCAS is looking into policies related to student led courses. Due to concerns raised over a student led course on Palestine, the UCAS would like to be sure that policies are in place and being followed that ensure faculty involvement, and that student led courses are vetted through the appropriate course approval process.

**Julie Bruno, President, CCC Academic Senate**

ASCCC President, Julie Bruno, provided an update on recent events within the California Community College system:

* Incoming CCC Chancellor Eloy Ortiz Oakley will take office December 19, 2016. Oakley recently released a survey to all constituent groups in order to learn how the CCC Chancellor’s Office can support the efforts of CCC campuses.
* With the recent presidential election, there is growing concern and discussion with regard to the future of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) students. The ASCCC released a number of documents and information in support of these students. In addition, a workgroup was formed at the Chancellor’s Office to help facilitate the conversation regarding the federal agenda and the impact it may have on the CCC system and students.
* Work to improve accreditation continues to progress. The two workgroups tasked with making recommendations for improvements to the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) have reached a consensus that the long term goal for the CCC system should be a single, higher education commission for the western region.
* Significant efforts surrounding faculty hiring and diversity were recently made. In November, the EEO and Diversity Workgroup created an EEO and Diversity Best Practices Handbook, which includes best practices for faculty recruitment, hiring, and mentoring.
* The ASCCC worked diligently towards the implementation of the Board of Governors Workforce, Job Creation, and a Strong Economy Recommendations.
* In order to diversify and increase faculty hiring pools, the ASCCC is reviewing the minimum qualifications for faculty and administrators in the CCC system.
* The ASCCC is currently working on implementation of the Common Assessment Initiative (CAI). During conversations regarding CAI, the topic of creating a data lake storage repository was discussed.

1. **Guest Speaker, Lark Park, Governor’s Office**

Guest Speaker Park shared with ICAS recent events within the Governor’s Office:

* The California State Department of Finance is currently working toward finalizing the Governor’s Proposed Budget for the 2017-2018 fiscal year. The report is expected to be released January 2017. The recent election left a hint of uncertainty in relation to previous revenue projections. It is noted that it is possible many of California’s multi-year commitments may need to be re-examined. Furthermore, it is important ICAS consider ways to scale up programs that were effective in educating students.
* Due to a lack of transcript data provided by K-12, the report from the California Higher Education Eligibility Study mandated by California Senate Bill 103 will not be released as scheduled this month. This study is intended to conduct analysis regarding the number of public high school graduates who will be eligible for admission to the CSU and UC based on the two segments current eligibility requirements.
* There are currently Governor appointed board vacancies within both the CSU and UC segments; the governor’s office is accepting applications and nominations for the positions.

The group discussed efforts and projects that the three segments worked on together to help facilitate the transfer process between the CCC and CSU/UC. It is noted that while there are still challenges, faculty from both the CSU and CCC invested an enormous amount of effort into easing the transition. The CCC requested funding through the System Budget Proposal to begin the Pathways to Teaching Program (PTTP),which is designed to provide support to students interested in teaching, while facilitating transfer in two years. It is suggested that a similar program could be beneficial in recruiting students interested in becoming K-12 teachers. The group discussed ways to collaborate and work more efficiently with the K-12 system, in order to recruit qualified students seeking to become teachers.

1. **Tuition Increases (CSU)**

The ASCSU recently had a first reading resolution regarding tuition increases for the 2017-2018 academic year. This resolution calls for increased funding to the CSU, with the hope that it will avert a tuition increase that could cause burden to vulnerable student populations. At this time, the ASCSU members do not have consensus, either in favor of, or against the tuition increase. The group discussed tuition increases in relation to inflation, as well as student activism that occurred recently concerning this issue in both the CSU and UC segments.

1. **Anonymous vs. Confidential Student Evaluations of Teaching (CSU)**

A CSU campus is discussing online student evaluations of teaching and the anonymity behind the evaluations. Although faculty members receive evaluation results, in the context of being confidential, no identifying information is given to the faculty member. When a faculty member would like to follow up on the validity of an evaluation or a possible threat that was made, faculty is unable to attain that information. The group discussed that with threats against faculty becoming more prevalent in today’s society, it might be necessary that discussions occur concerning identifying information, and whether this information should be accessible by school administration in the instance that a threat is received.

1. **Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (CSU & UC)**

Due to the recent United States presidential election, and claims made by the President-elect to end the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program through executive order, there is growing concern and uncertainty towards the future of the DACA program and students. Chalfant discussed actions taken by the UC to address these concerns. The UC is sharing awareness of the issue with faculty, and informing them of options to help students which may be displaced by threats, assault, or harassment. In addition, UC will inform DACA students of a campus coordinator that will be available to assist students should the need arise.

The group discussed details of three urgent bills currently being considered by the California State Assembly and the possible support of ICAS of these bills. Since the election took place after all three segments’ most recent plenary, the academic senates have not yet had the opportunity to formally take an official position on the matter. It is noted that AB 21 (Kalra, 2017) could have significant financial implications for the CCC segment due to language in the bill which states that medical, housing, and legal representation should be provided to students. Since very few CCCs have access to these facilities on their campuses, it would prove very difficult and costly to implement this bill. ICAS discussed potentially supporting the principles of the bill, but not supporting each individual piece. The chairs from each segment agreed to discuss any repercussions that the bills might have with their Chancellor’s Office before making a decision.

**ACTION: Miller, Bruno, and Chalfant will investigate whether their respective senates are in support of one of the three urgency bills, and follow up with one another. This item will be added to the next meeting agenda. (Filling, MSC)**

1. **ICAS Messaging (UC, CSU, and CCC)**

Bruno advised that this agenda item was completed; no further discussion is required.

1. **New Business**

* Data Lake – Members will invite an IT professional from their respective segment to discuss how a data lake could potentially be used to link the segments, as well as include the K-12 segment.
* Guest speaker - Lark Park from the Governor’s Office will be invited to attend and speak at the next meeting.
* Legislation Day – Members will discuss arrangements for the upcoming Legislation Day.

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Meeting adjourned at 2:51 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Miguel Rother