

ASCSU March Plenary Report

March 14-15, 2024

Cal-GETC and CSU GE breadth update: Once again, Cal-GETC and CSU GE breadth were the talk of the plenary. As of this writing, the CSU Board of Trustees is set to enshrine Cal-GETC as the accepted transfer GE pattern from the community colleges into [Title V](#) (replacing [IGETC](#)). At this time, they are also expected to adopt Cal-GETC as the new pattern for CSU GE breadth.

The ASCSU continues to oppose this conflation of the legal requirements of Cal-GETC with a change to the CSU GE pattern that has not been discussed with or approved by the faculty of the CSU.

Title IX update: We had a report from Leora Freedman and Hayley Schwartzkopf (new AVP for Civil Rights Programming and Services) about the work that continues in implementing the recommendations of the [Cozen Title IX / DHR Report](#).

The focus is currently on five different areas: oversight protocols (the discussion focused mostly on a strategic communications plan and other conduct of concern); systemwide standards; support for campus Implementation Teams; increasing oversight, and “other key initiatives.” Implementation Team plans have been sent to the Chancellor’s office, and Chancellor Garcia will be reviewing these and providing feedback on their final form. There is no airgapping occurring between administration and Title IX / DHR processes and procedures planning.

Enrollment: We had the largest incoming class in CSU history! But it still isn’t enough to meet the targets laid out in the CSU Compact with Governor Newsom, nor the expanded targets laid out by the state legislature in the 2023-2024 budget. [The UCs also had the largest number of incoming first year California students this year...]

The Chancellor’s Office is looking at low-conferring degrees (LCDs) across the system: all identified LCDs (fewer than 10 undergraduate degrees conferred a year or fewer than 5 graduate degrees conferred a year) must produce action plans. Depending on this plan, they may become candidates for suspension.

The CO is also engaging in its budget reallocation plan. Starting with 8 campuses, budgets are being reduced 3% per year for 3 years; with this comes a reduction in their enrollment targets. To make up the difference from the Compact and legislative requirements, 9 campuses are being given increased enrollment targets (this includes Cal State LA) with a promise for increased funding to support those students. The current FTEs target for 2024-2025 is less than our enrollment for 2023-2024, but only just: so expect the conversations around enrollment to continue to ramp up (and spare a thought for our NorCal colleagues facing cuts).

Chancellor Garcia: The Chancellor has been in Sacramento meeting with legislators and members of think tanks to discuss the value of the CSU and the need for additional resources/financial support. Chancellor Garcia noted the threats to institutions of higher education broadly from external actors questioning the value and work of higher education, which is negatively impacting the perception of the value of a college degree. She is also seeking support for the compact, which was agreed to in good faith with the Gov. Office. (See note below about the LAO's take on the compact and the recommendation to not fund it.) As a result of the state budget deficit, she stated the CSU must do its part to meet those challenges- containment of costs, plan for low enrolled programs, collaboration and shared services opportunities to minimize costs. She encourages multi-campus collaborations along with intersegmental and community partnerships to strengthen the CSU, provide benefits to students, and reduce costs. She noted it is important for faculty to be aware of and participate in advocating on behalf of the CSU and higher education broadly, and she was asked to extend opportunities for faculty to be part of her delegation for Hill Day in Washington D.C.

Shared Governance: For shared governance, Chancellor Garcia stated it means engagement, but it does not mean agreeing. She was referencing tensions related to Cal GET-C and changes to CSU GE Breadth. The Chancellor would not respond to comments about changes to CSU GE Breadth; her standard reply to several questions/comments was "I appreciate your comment."

Other items of interest:

- Our rollcall included identifying each Senator's favorite movie. Most of the body agreed that, regardless of other movies named, it was "The Princess Bride."
- The CFA tentative agreement has been approved by the CSU Board of Trustees. It is estimated that the pay increase will start in our June checks, but it might be later.
- CFA has heard the feedback from its members, and is in the process of reflecting on changes to bargaining moving forward.
- State budget is in a tight crunch. Base budget currently looks to be unchanged for 2024-2025 – but the LAO has been in meetings about the gap between the CSU Compact enrollment targets and the actual CSU enrollment. This may lead to a future clawback of Compact funds (which are in addition to the base budget). The LAO is stating the CSU has been overfunded because it has not been meeting enrollment targets, currently about 5% under enrollment target, and is recommending the deferred compact payment be rejected. You can read more about [here](#).
- CSSA did not take a supportive stance on Cal-GETC. Their resolution to support Cal-GETC was defeated 18-3.

- We had a long, powerful discussion with Dr. Josefina Flores Morales and Dr. Francisco J. Villegas about DACA employees' experiences in higher education. We need to do better to support our DACA colleagues.
- FAFSA was borked by the rollout of the federal changes. This affects every university nationally; CSU is working closely with the Department of Education, and extending deadlines, to help mitigate the impacts this is having on current and prospective students. The Department of Education announced recently it would provide support to low resourced higher education institutions, which you can read about [here](#). The CSU is currently applying for this additional support.
- The CSU received a grant from Lumina to redesign the Cal State Apply application, which will allow campuses, such as Sonoma, to proactively admit high school students who meet CSU minimum eligibility without them initiating an application for admission. This is often called "direct admission" [its effectiveness has some positive results](#).
- There have been united efforts in elevating Black Student Success; The CO has allocated \$4.6 million to campuses. The CSU partnered with more than 100 faith-based organizations serving primarily black communities to communicate the benefits of the CSU.

Resolutions:

- AS-3676-24/AA [On Cal-GETC Alignment and Shared Governance](#) – **Resolution approved.**
- AS-3665-24/AA/FA [Faculty Choice in Selection of Course Materials](#) – **Resolution approved.**
- AS-3660-24/JEDI/FA Amending the Constitution of the Academic Senate of the California State University (ASCSU) to Add Three Designated Temporary Faculty Positions
- AS-3661-24/JEDI/FA [Change in Bylaws of the Academic Senate of the California State University \(ASCSU\) to Accommodate the Addition of Three Designated Temporary Faculty Positions](#) – **Resolution approved.**
- AS-3670-24/Exec [Apportionment of Academic Senate CSU \(ASCSU\) Seats](#) – **Resolution approved.**
- AS-3668-24/APEP [Funding for Transfer Curriculum Development and Evaluation](#) – **Resolution approved.**
- AS-3674-24/FGA [2024 Legislative Advocacy Positions of the Academic Senate of the California State University \(ASCSU\)](#) WAIVER – Waiver passed; **Resolution approved.**
- AS-3675-24/FGA [2024 Federal Legislative Advocacy Positions of the Academic Senate of the California State University \(ASCSU\)](#) WAIVER – Waiver passed; **Resolution approved.**

- AS-3689-24/FGA [On Estimating the Financial Implications of Adopting CalGETC for CSU General Education Breadth](#) WAIVER – Waiver passed; **Resolution approved.**
- AS-3692-24/EXEC [Appreciation to California State Student Association for Support of Student Success](#) WAIVER – Waiver passed; **Resolution approved.**

First reading items:

- AS-3677-23/Exec Academic Senate of the CSU 2024-2025 Meeting Schedule AS-3670-23/Exec Apportionment of Academic Senate CSU (ASCSU) Seats
- AS-3679-23/AA Support for CSU Institute For Teaching and Learning Artificial Intelligence (AI) Professional Development
- AS-3680-23/APEP REVIEW OF STANDARDIZED TEST USE FOR UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS
- AS-3681-23/JEDI PROMOTING RACIAL EQUITY IN CSU INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM PARTICIPATION
- AS-3682-23/JEDI PROTECTING WORKLOAD EQUITY AND SHARED GOVERNANCE CONSIDERING THE SYSTEMWIDE PLAN TO TARGET AND REALLOCATE BUDGET OF LOW DEGREE PROGRAMS
- AS-3683-23/JEDI ASCSU SUPPORT FOR REPARATIONS TASK FORCE REPORT AND PLAN FOR AFRICAN AMERICANS
- AS-3684-23/JEDI ASCSU COMMENDS B.A. PROGRAM AT PELICAN BAY STATE PRISON
- AS-3685-23/JEDI AFFIRMING COMMITMENT TO ACCESSIBILITY IN ALL COURSE- AND INSTRUCTION-RELATED SOFTWARE
- AS-3686-23/JEDI ASCSU Justice Equity Diversity and Inclusion Strategic Plan
- AS-3687-23/JEDI ASCSU JEDI COMMITTEE BYLAW REVISIONS
- AS-3688-23/FGA/JEDI Resolution for Equity Data Regarding Student Enrollment, Cost of Instruction, and CSU Equity in Budget Allocation & Reallocation Plans
- AS-3690-23/FA/JEDI Fortifying and Supporting CSU Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) through Employment by Advancing Their Inclusion and Equity in the CSU
- AS-3691-23/FA Continuing Support of Faculty Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activities (RSCA), and Request for Increased RSCA Funding

