

To: ASI Board of Directors
From: Miguel Guerrero, CSSA Liaison
Subject: February 2023 CSSA Plenary

Spring 2023 Office Hours:
Monday: 1:30 PM – 5:00 PM
Wednesday: 1:30 PM – 5:00 PM
Thursday: 1:30 PM – 5:00 PM / 5:45 PM (Lobby Corps)
Friday: 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

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February California State Student Association (CSSA) Plenary

The February CSSA Plenary meeting was held for only one day on Saturday, February 11th, from 9:00am – 5:00pm, and took place virtually over Zoom. The Plenary meeting focused on approving the 2022/23 Mid-Year Budget that was recommended last meeting, selecting the recipient of the 2022/23 Legislator of the Year Award, dissolving the Resolution and Dissenting Opinion Policy from the Internal Affairs Committee, further discussion on the Student Participation in Policy Development policy, and taking stances of support on the following bills: [AB 35](#), [AB 274](#), [AB 311](#), [SB 25](#), and [SB 245](#). The itinerary for the entire event can be found [here](#) for reference.

Board of Directors Meeting

The Board of Directors meeting consisted of approving the recommendation from the Finance Committee to approve the 2022/23 Mid-Year budget that was recommended at January's Plenary meeting. The Mid-Year budget adjustment was brought up last meeting to recommend the CSSA to move the salary that was supposed to go to a vacant position of management to instead go into the budget for this year and move the surplus amount of \$21,342 for the next CSSA Budget for 2023/24. This item was approved. The Legislator of the Year Award was brought up and decided to approve Marc Berman as the recipient for this award. Marc Berman was a supporter to the CSSA in the past and is also the author of AB 2815, which allows vote-by-mail ballot drop-off locations to be established at California Community College, CSU, and UC campuses across California upon request. Legislator Marc Berman was unanimously approved as the recipient for the Legislator of the Year Award, and will be announced formally in April.

The Board of Directors also unanimously decided for the recommendation to dissolve the [Resolution and Dissenting Opinion Policy](#). The Internal Affairs' reasoning for the dissolution is that the CSSA has not worked with resolutions in a long time, since the beginning of the pandemic, and that there is also not a lot of time to work on the documents extensively. The

recommendation from the committee is to not keep the policy instated for redundancy purposes. The Board of Directors also took stances of support of the following bills: [AB 35](#), [AB 274](#), [AB 311](#), [SB 25](#), and [SB 245](#), as per the recommendation of the Legislative Affairs Committee.

To see the full Board of Directors agenda and meeting materials for more context, see [here](#).

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee consisted of reviewing the January Financial Statement for the CSSA, as well as presenting information regarding the budget development policies. The Fiscal Expenditure Statement for January 2023 provided a full update to the Fall 2022 SIRF revenues, as well as any additional costs between the January Plenary meeting and the one in February. This committee is specifically only addressing the CSSA operating budget and its financial statements. To see the overall budget overview and breakdown of the CSSA financial accounts for the month of January 2023, the agenda and the meeting materials will be provided [here](#).

The Chair also gave a presentation regarding the CSSA 2023/24 Budget Development information and policy updates. The presentation highlights the intent of the CSSA in how they operate their budget, with their mission being the prioritization of Board initiatives and issues programs, their budget expenditures determined by internal operations (personnel, business and organizational costs, etc.) and Programs (Travel, campaigns and initiatives, CHESS, CSUnity, etc.), and how, when determining spending, each expenditure are categorized. The presentation is a lengthy PowerPoint going into detail the many priorities of the CSSA and their internal committees, and the presentation can be found [here](#).

Student Trustee Committee

The Student Trustee Committee consisted of a brief meeting, with the committee now beginning the process of recommending the names of applicants to the Student Trustee Interview Panel as part of the 2023/2025 search process.

Systemwide Affairs Committee

The Systemwide Affairs Committee consisted of a presentation on budget and tuition, an update presentation regarding the January 2023 Board of Trustees meeting, and a discussion on the CSU's student Participation in Policy Development Policy. The presentation consisted of an update from the CSU Board of Trustees in which they are proposing in their operating budget for \$529 million proposal for the CSU system to the Governor. The Governor has until June 15th to sign the budget to fund the CSU system, but due to declining enrollment, there is a chance that the budget may fall through. In order to keep their options open, there is a possibility that tuition may increase next year, but it is not the CSU's intent to increase tuition.

The committee also had a discussion on the CSU's Student Participation in Policy Development Policy. This policy was put into place to solidify the codification of proper conduct regarding the appointment of students-at-large in any CSU campus, and that student

representatives are recommended for appointment by a CSU campuses AS/I student body, and that they are officially appointed by the University President. This policy also specifies that the information and input gathered from these students shall be used by the University Presidents as an effective vehicle for policy development and student governance. The committee has agreed that these policies are important in maintaining a standard procedure on each CSU campus that must be followed to ensure proper student governance and representation in these external committees. The Student Participation in Policy Development Policy can be found [here](#) for reference.

Legislative Affairs Committee

The Legislative Affairs Committee consisted of action items regarding the committee considering a recommendation of a support on the following bills: [AB 35](#), [AB 274](#), [AB 311](#), [SB 25](#), and [SB 245](#). AB 35 and SB 25 contain the same language that primarily focus to exempting taxation on student loan debt from Personal Gross Income. According to Governor Gavin Newsom, “Californians who get student debt relief shouldn’t be hit with taxes for it. This will provide up to \$1.3 billion in tax relief for more than 3.5 million Californians.” AB 274 is a bill that would exclude any grant, award, scholarship, loan, or fellowship benefit provided to any family member for educational purposes from consideration as income for the purpose of determining program eligibility or grant amounts. This bill would make it easier for students who receive loans, scholarships, or other financial aid used for school to also be eligible for Cal-Fresh. AB 311 and SB 245 are also two bills that have identical language written, but both state their intent to remove the age cap of 55 years if age in order to expand California Food Assistance Program (CFAP) eligibility. By removing the age cap that was set for this program, this would be increase the eligibility pool for thousands of undocumented immigrants, especially if immigration status is the sole reason for eligibility for this program. The full agenda and materials associated with the meeting can be found [here](#).