

To: ASI Board of Directors From: Kathryn Webb, CSSA Liaison Subject: November Board Report

Office Hours: Monday: 8AM- 10:15 AM Tuesday: 12:30- 3:30 PM Wednesday: 1:45-5 PM Thursday: 2-5 PM\* Friday: 12:30-3:30 PM Contact Info:

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## California State Student Association (CSSA)

The October CSSA Plenary was held for one day on October 17. In my last board report, you can find a brief synopsis of every committee meeting. Here, I would like to focus on the biggest topics from the plenary, namely the implementation of the Ethnic Studies requirement, the ASCSU resolution, and the continued discussion of the Philippine Human Rights Act.

• Implementation of the Ethnic Studies requirement: Representatives from the CSU system presented to the committee how a law will become CSU policy. They are still working on the best way to implement this requirement and asked for feedback from students. The CSU system will make this a requirement for all incoming freshmen and transfer students and will be a part of general education requirements.

\* Hours slightly differ during CSSA Plenary weekends

\* Only during scheduled Lobby Corps Weeks. For a schedule of Lobby Corps Meetings, please see <u>https://asi.csus.edu/post/lobby-corps</u>

<sup>\*</sup> I will be working at home due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and therefore will not be available at this phone number for a call. If you would like to call me, please email me so we can set up a Zoom meeting.

- ASCSU Resolution: The Academic Senate of the California State University resolved to continue the suspension of student evaluations. CSSA discussed that making student evaluations optional for faculty would suppress the student voice. CSSA asked that we send a feedback form to CSSA, and this was submitted on Monday, October 26th.
- Philippine Human Rights Act: This resolution was tabeled at the October plenary due. Since this is an important topic to CSU students, a special meeting of the executive committee was held on October 30<sup>th</sup>. I was able to attend with our ASI President. At the special meeting, new information was brought up that CSSA staff members had met with student activists and came to a compromise. CSSA did not see the resolution providing a platform for further action, and with the help of student activist groups, they created a statement. This statement would condemn the anti-terror law and any form of human rights violations. It is still in a rough draft stage. The actual resolution in support of the PHRA was tabled indefinitely. This will allow CSSA to instead draft the statement and officially release it. CSSA supports the overall movement and believes a statement will be a more effective advocacy route.
- In addition to these policy actions, the Board of Trustees has also been active. They have chosen to support Proposition 16. There is also a current movement to ask for a Basic Needs Line Item in the CSU system budget. This would ensure that there is money for the basic needs of students. A finalized budget vote will occur in January of 2021. In regard to advocacy forms, one more has been submitted addressing the needs of transfer students, and two more are almost ready to be submitted. CSSA will respond with action plans in November. In addition, Sacramento State is second in the Ballot Bowl and we are currently in first place for the CSSA CIVIC Challenge! Shout out to the hard work of OGA staff, ASI Board members, and our wonderful students for being so civically engaged. Let's keep it up!

## Lobby Corps

Despite only having a few meetings this semester, Lobby Corps has been busy training our committee members. This month we focused on getting training resources out to students, whether this is a broad knowledge of rights, or people to contact for advocacy efforts. Below are brief descriptions of our meetings:

- October 15th: I presented the "Know Your Rights Training". This covered voting rights in California as well as how students can safely and successfully protest on campus. The chair, Ethan Gould, also covered how mock advocacy visits will be set up and run in November.
- October 29th: CSSA Workshop! Had 4 CSSA Guest Speakers come and speak to our committee about how the CSSA represents them. It was a wonderful meeting and our



committee members actively engaged and took part in discussion with the CSSA representatives.

• Lobby Corps will have just one more committee meeting on November 12th. This is when we will be doing our mock advocacy visits with the committee members. If you are interested, please reach out to me or Ethan.

## **OGA Activities**

This past month has been dedicated to getting out the vote. Sacramento State finished strong in  $2^{nd}$  place with 1631 newly registered voters. That is an amazing feat, and that means so many more students will have their voice heard! There have been many other creative efforts that our Civic Engagement coordinator has been working on. I took part in a few of the activities:

- National Voter Education Week- OGA participated every day to help Sacramento State students prepare to become informed voters! I participated by wearing my "We Vote, We Count" shirt while running errands to spread the word about voting.
- Election Ambassadors- This program was created to involve the student body in the voter registration process. The volunteer students that were appointed to this program were designated to engage their communities and encourage them to vote. They have done an amazing job and were a great team to work with in getting out the vote! I have been working with our Civic Engagement Coordinator to help record hours for the ambassadors.
- Vote Early Party- This was held on October 24th and was a fun event that celebrated everyone who voted early, and inspired others to go out and vote! OGA worked in collaboration with RHA and KSSU for this event.

In addition, our OGA staff has been holding meetings including City Ambassadors, Lobby Corps, and classroom presentations. Other voting programs include the Civic Engagement Resource Fair, Hornets All in, Voter Registration Drive Day, Why Hornets Vote Panel and social media campaign.

## **Events and Calendar Items**

10/6 Met with ASI HHS Alejandro Buenrostro

- 10/7 Attended ASI Formal Board meeting
- 10/14 Attended ASI Working Board
- 10/15 Call with Brian Dulgar from the Aquatics Center to discuss advocacy efforts
- 10/15 Attended Lobby Corps Meeting and Presented "Know Your Rights"
- 10/17 Attended CSSA Plenary

10/20 Met with Legislative Affairs Coordinator



10/21 Attended the Meet and Greet with Campus Partners
10/22 Met with ASI VPUA Lovepreet Kaur
10/26 Met with ASI Pres and Director HHS to discuss strategic priorities
10/27 Presented to Professor Joshua Pryor's class about ASI and OGA
10/28 Attended ASI Special Board Meeting
10/28 Attended ASI Working Board Meeting
10/29 Met with ASI VPUA to review Trigger Warning Advocacy Form
10/29 Attended Lobby Corps
10/30 Met with ASI Pres to discuss the Gloria Romero Act as it will be discussed in CSSA
10/30 Attended CSSA Executive Committee Special Meeting

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out and ask. I am also available during my office hours if you would like to schedule a meeting via Zoom.

In Service, Kathryn Webb CSSA Liaison She/Her/Hers