

California State Student Association February 2018 Plenary: Maritime

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Hello again every one. Here is a look at what is going on in the world of the California State Student Association. First of all, thank you to Matthew, Noel, and Jay for attending the weekend with us. This weekend was full of great information and conversation. We learned some exciting news about the upcoming CHESS conference and some not so exciting news about the possible tuition increase. Overall it was a great weekend at the beautiful Cal Maritime.

Internal Affairs

Internal Affairs was short because everything was discussed within minutes. One of the members proposed a strict policy change that seems like it won't go over well with the other members.

For more information about Internal Affairs, contact [Alana Lim](#).

Legislative Affairs

In Legislative Affairs we started with a presentation about sexual assault victim advocate and prevention. We learned that every CSU should have a victim counselor either fulltime or contracted. They do not work through the Title IX office. They are independent and IX compliance based. College students are at high risk of being sexually assaulted. Right now when a victim comes to their office, the information is not 100% confidential. If they were to take it to court, their information could become public. They would like for CSSA to support AB 1896 Sexual Assault Counselor-Victim Privilege, which allows sexual assault counselors that are engaged in a program on a public institution of higher education, to maintain confidentiality in conversations and communications with victims of sexual assault.

Members of the committee would like to see campuses hosting gubernatorial debates.

The Committee approved to support the PHEPA Resolution. They also approved AB 2784 which they would like to have a sponsor position. There will be \$14 million for three campuses to have a pilot program, lastly they approved to support SB 691.

We were informed that there were three federal bills in support of DACA that recently got shut down. In the new budget deliberation, Trump proposed to get rid of, unsubsidized loans for undergrads, public service loan forgiveness, and federal work study for graduate students.

The committee discussed a handful of bills including, AB 1896 which allows sexual assault counselors to maintain confidentiality, AB 1895 Dream Loan Repayment, AB 1858 which allows students to be informed and notified about their financial aid package, AB 1894 which improves access to anti-hunger benefits, AB 1887 which allows undocumented students to serve as a

student's trustee. AB 2070 which will require students to be trained on dating and sexual assault violence, SB 968 which requires campuses to have a one fulltime mental health counselor per 1000 students, SB 1004 which seeks to improve the mental health services for students, and lastly AB 940 which would increase the Cal Grant for foster youth.

Lastly, the group was informed about the advocacy plan for CHESS. There will be two campaigns this year. Back to Basics and Choose CSU. The Back to Basics will hold more press conferences throughout the year. There will also be a basic needs rally at the capitol at 9:30 on Monday February 12th. Choose CSU will host a CSU wide advocacy day on March 7th, and a round table on March 14th.

For more information about legislative affairs, contact [Marcos Montes](#).

Social Justice and Equity

There was a quick presentation about Project Rebound. They explained this is something that has proven to be extremely beneficial to previously incarcerated students.

For more information about SJEC contact [Dulce Ramirez](#).

University Affairs

There was a discussion on how to improve safety on campuses during a school shooting. It was shocking to learn that some campuses have no way of locking individual classrooms. The committee felt that this is something they need to pay more attention to in the future to get students more safe.

For more information about university affairs, contact [Michael Pratt](#).

Civic Engagement

They would like to see at least three gubernatorial debates held on different campuses. Some potential challenges would be that candidates may already be booked, or they will not come if there is no media coverage.

Board of Directors

The PHEPA Resolution got approved, Emergency Student Housing and Loan Program will now be sponsored by CSSA, and SB 961 will be supported by CSSA.

During a discussion, some campuses shared that it is important for everyone to share the same information about the tuition increase and when lobbying to make sure they all have the same information. It is more impactful if the capitol is hearing the same information rather than different stories.

For more information about Board of Directors, contact [Alana Lim](#).

