

# California State Student Association January 2018 Plenary: Dominguez Hills

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Hello Everyone! Last weekend at CSSA was very eventful. The main topic of the weekend was the possible tuition increase. There was a lot of information shared about why there may be an increase and also a few potential solutions. It was a great weekend full of interesting information and great presentations.

## Board of Directors

During public comment a representative from Students for Quality Education (SQE) stated they are doing a lot of work advocating against the potential tuition increase. Their overall message stated their frustration with the chancellor's decision. They plan to hold a state wide campaign on March 20<sup>th</sup> in Long Beach. They are also offering free transportation for anyone who would like to attend. A second speaker from SQE explained to the group that they would like to see more radical action taken on the increase.

Later in the meeting, the board of directors went over the stats for the tuition increase proposal. The presenter stated that even though tuition has been going up, the amount of Pell Grant eligible students is on the rise as well. There is a chance that there will be an increase in tuition if the state decides to decrease its investment in higher education. According to the [presentation](#) the cost to operate the CSU system has increased.

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

## Legislative Affairs

During public comment for Legislative affairs there were two speakers from different organizations. First, a speaker from "RISE" asked for a partnership with CSSA. They explained that a benefit to a partnership would be tools to help with CSSA advocacy. They would ultimately like to see a resolution from CSSA in support of their cause. Lastly, a speaker from "College for All" asked CSSA to support tuition-free higher education for the masses.

Legislative Affairs is in support of four bill this month. SB 691, AB 1767, AB 1037 and the Emergency Student Housing Loan Program (ESHLP). ESHLP is a bill that members of CSSA helped write and will be sponsoring. It offers temporary housing and rapid rehousing for students facing homelessness. It is titled as a loan program but the loan will be forgiven. There is no expectation that students will have to pay it back. The reason for this is because if it were a grant, it would make students ineligible for their financial aid programs.

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

## **Civic Engagement**

The civic engagement committee challenges other campuses to visit 100 classes in 100 days and promote voter registration. They would also like to see a planned walk out against the proposed tuition increase. Lastly, they would like to see legislators visit campuses and talk with students.

## **Internal Affairs**

Last year CSSA faced some challenges during their elections. This year they plan to have a smooth election process by updating their policy.

## **Social Justice and Equity Committee**

All discussion items were moved to the next meeting.

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

## **University Affairs**

During public comment, there were a few students that felt their schools' student government was not representing them correctly because they were not attending the meeting. It is crucial that all campuses send their representatives.

Dr. Bevly from the chancellor's office spoke about the basic needs initiative and how important it is for campuses to enforce this. This is funded by the graduation initiative. There will be information released about a basic needs survey at the first day of the Basic Needs Conference.

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

## **Sunday Board of Directors**

Academic senate passed a resolution on project rebound. They also passed a resolution against the tuition increase and feel that another increase is not necessary.

The board also received a visit from Chancellor White. He explained to the board that a decision about a tuition increase won't be made until the last possible moment. During his visit, many board members felt that he did not answer a lot of their questions.

Lastly, CSSA will now take care of the planning process for CSUnity and plan to always hold it at a southern campus.

For more information about Board of directors contact [Payton Starke](#) or [Maggie White](#).

All presentations for this plenary can be found [HERE](#).