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To: ASI Board of Directors  
From: Karina Arroyo, CSSA Liaison  
Subject: February CSSA Report

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**Spring 2022 Office Hours**

Tues: 8:00AM – 12:00PM

Wed: 1:00PM – 5:00PM

Thurs: 1:00PM – 5:00PM

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**March California State Student Association (CSSA) Plenary**

The March CSSA Plenary was held virtually March 12, 2022 from 9:00AM to 5:00PM. Plenary was completed in one day, given that the California Higher Education Student Summit would be held on Sunday from 10:00AM to 2:00PM.

The following includes summaries of each committee in the order they were presented. Please review the report, and feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

**Legislative Affairs Committee**

The Legislative Affairs Committee began with reports of the staff and officers. Mary Washington introduced the new Policy Specialist, Shannon Swanson. She is a Sacramento State alumni and previously worked for Assemblymember Petrie-Norris. Next Chair Malhotra announced that the Student Trustee bill passed, and encouraged student testimonies for Cal Grant Reform at the Board of Trustee's meeting on April 19, 2022.

The new business included four discussion items and two action items. First, AB 1844: Rape and Sexual Assault Education Program by Assemblymember Medina aims to strengthen the investigations for sexual misconduct by requiring institutions of employees who have been investigated for sexual assault. Additionally, this bill establishes positions on campus to advise and support individuals. This bill addresses Priority 2, specifically goals 1 and 2 of the CSSA [Policy Agenda](#). Priority 2 ensures student health and safety are prioritized to enable belonging on

campus. Vice Chair Samaniego began the discussion by asking how this new position on campus would differ from the positions that exist currently. Feedback collected will be brought back to the author's office and discussed further at the next meeting.

Next, AB 2683: Sexual Violence and Harassment Training and Resources would require annual sexual harassment training. While some campuses, like Sacramento State, already require training for students. This bill would aim to provide consistency across campuses. The Vice Chair once again asked how these trainings would be different than those that are currently required. Given the recent issue at the Chancellors Office, members suggested that there be more guidance for administrators and faculty. This feedback will be brought back to the author's office and addressed at the next meeting.

Third discussion item was AB 2815: Vote by Mail Ballot Drop-off Locations authored by Assemblymember Berman would require the county to provide a mail ballot drop-off location on the main campus of each CSU, upon request of UC campuses, and at certain community colleges (CCC). This bill supports Priority 3's goal by encouraging civic engagement. Fourth was SB 886: California Environmental Quality Act Exemption (CEQA) for Public Universities Housing Program aims to streamline necessary housing projects by qualifying projects that are on UC, CSU, or CCC campuses.

Lastly, the Committee voted to support AB 1655: State Holiday Juneteenth and SB 641: Cal Fresh for College Students Act.

#### Finance Committee

The Finance Committee presented an information item regarding the March 2022 Financial Statement and discussed the 2022-2023 Budget Overview. Next month, the committee will present the draft budget with edits received at this meeting with hopes approve next year's budget by May. The presentation included determining expenditures from the priorities, historical trends, and accounting for inflation, operating costs, and supporting structures like the main offices.

#### Internal Affairs Committees

The Internal Affairs Committee had a robust conversation about the proposed changes to the Constitution. The first item of business was the Scholarship policy which was ultimately moved to a separate special meeting as there were issues of legality and fiscal impact that could not be addressed within the allotted time. According to the CSSA Constitution, all Executive Officers receive a scholarship to pay for tuition, fees, books, and living expenses. Should the

executive officers have to step down for any reason, language discussing the scholarship monies does not exist.

Next, the Elected Officer Review Policy and Constitution Article IX Special Officer discussion items were a point of contention given that executive officers and members disagreed on several issues regarding the Special Officer positions. There are two Special Officer Positions: Social Justice & Equity and a Sustainability Special Officer. Some believed that the positions should be removed given that the work is unpaid and exists within the role of Executive Officers. Others believe that the work done by these positions helps alleviate the work load of multiple other advocacy tasks assigned to Executive Officers. Ultimately, the committee decided that the positions should be moved to the responsibility of Regional positions as those are equally distributed.

#### Systemwide Affairs Committee

The Systemwide Affairs Committee convened right after lunch and we had two discussion items. The first was the March 2022 CSU Board of Trustee report. The Committee on Education Policy have been working on removing one Physical and Biological Science class in favor of adding one ethnic's course to the requirement in the [Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum \(IGETC\)](#). The Committee had one action item to propose policy revisions based on the progress on the [CSU sustainability goals](#). Sacramento State has published their own sustainability dashboard and the most recent 2019-2020 Sustainability Report [here](#). They aim to add a section for scope 3 emissions that take into account student's transportation emissions. Member Raynes provided an update regarding Title IX. The Board of Trustees is launching an investigation at CSU Fresno and assessing other campuses on the effectiveness of reporting to Title IX offices. Next, the interim Chancellor search is currently interviewing candidates. Member Linares requested feedback from the committee regarding desirable criteria for future Chancellor. The Committee in charge of the search hired an independent search firm who has provided a list of potential names and both Member Raynes and Linares hope to interview all candidates being considered.

Lastly, the Chair Ruelas shared a report 2021-22 CSSA Policy Agenda Implementation. Some of these priorities include: California State University Connectivity Contributing to Equity and Student Success ([CSUCCESS](#)), support structure for student basic needs, Menstrual Equity for All Act implementation, Student transfer Achievement Reform Act, COVID-19 policies and repopulation efforts, Financial Aid reform, and discontinuing standard testing for undergraduate admissions. The report detailed the goals for each priority, provided updates, and information regarding next steps. The Systemwide Affairs Items in Review include: Title IX efforts, support for Former Foster youth, Student Fees and highlighted the importance of shared governance.



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Member Ruelas asked that each campus return with a short list of priorities according to our own goals.

#### Student Trustee Committee

The Student Trustee Committee discussed the 2022-2024 Student Trustee Search Process Recap. Members shared their experience reviewing applications and participating in the interview process. One of the most important learning lessons through the process was concealing interview questions as it gives an unfair advantage to candidates in the audience.

#### Board of Directors

The Board of Directors heard reports from CSU Alumni Council regarding mentorship program improvements, the Chancellor's Office on implementing ethnic studies in the IGETC, and from the Academic Senate of the California State University (ASCSU) as they will be addressing mask mandate concerns and special considerations. Member Ruelas and Linares have been visiting campuses and collecting feedback on repopulation as well as other advocacy efforts. Member Linares will be visiting Sacramento State on April 18<sup>th</sup>.

In terms of new business, the Board nominated and voted for the Bob Linscheid Trustee of the Year, Administrator of the Year, Robert C. Maxson President of the Year, and Faculty Excellence in Student Advising. The Board also voted to support AB 1655 Juneteenth, SB 641 Cal Fresh for College Students Act, and the Election of Member to the Finance Committee.

This concluded the March Plenary. Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions about this month's Plenary.

Best,

**Karina Arroyo | CSSA Liaison**

**Associated Students Inc.**