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To: ASI Board of Directors  
From: Karina Arroyo, CSSA Liaison  
Subject: May 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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**May California State Student Association (CSSA) Plenary**

The May CSSA Plenary was held virtually May 7, 2022 from 8:30AM to 3:30PM and May 8, 2022 from 9:30AM to 12:00PM.

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.

**Board of Directors #1**

This first meeting of the board of directors included only the election of next year's executive board members. Each candidate had an opportunity to speak read a statement and answer questions from members of the board. All resumes and statements were posted on the [CSSA website](#) for review. Next, members had the opportunity to discuss their qualifications and further elaborate on the candidates. The following is a list of 2022-2023 Elected Executive Officers:

*President of CSSA*

Krishan Malhotra – Krishan was this year's Legislative Affairs Coordinator and senior at California State University (CSU) Stanislaus. He is graduating with a B.S. in Business Administration this spring and attending graduate school in the fall of 2022. His goal is to ensure

that the transition back to in-person be as smooth as possible and aid in spreading the word about CSSA work.

*Chair*

Varenya Gupta – Next year, Varenya will be a junior at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and working to receive his B.S. in Manufacturing Engineering. As Chair, he hopes to focus on issues of basic needs, debt free college, public safety, and mental health.

*Vice President of Legislative Affairs*

Trent Murphy – Trent will be a junior next year at CSU Stanislaus working for his B.A. in Political Science. One of his goals is to find additional solutions to create affordable student housing, prioritize Title IX policies and procedures, expand Federal Advocacy, expand access to financial aid resources, and ensure systemwide sustainability efforts.

*Vice President of Systemwide Affairs*

Dixie Samaniego – Dixie will be a fourth year Political Science major at CSU Fullerton next year. She aims to advocate for safe and inclusive communities by supporting student access to mental health, food, and housing resources.

*Vice President of Finance*

Jonathan Molina Mancio – Jonathan will be graduating with a B.S. in Business Administration this spring at CSU Dominguez Hills. His focus is on ensuring transparency and promises to advocate for students through financial responsible use of funds.

Systemwide Affairs Committee

The Systemwide Affairs Committee first heard a presentation regarding the May 2022 Board of Trustee (BOT) Update. One of the main announcements was the proposal of a quantitative reasoning requirement. The proposal states that incoming high school students would need to complete one year of quantitative reasoning beginning 2027 school year. In addition, the BOT made a recommendation to improve salary structure, job framework and equitable pay for staff and employees. Lastly, the upcoming events include: a presentation on a new global equity innovation hub, a new research park at Sac State, and a proposal to revise the master plan for CSU Monterey Bay.

Next, there was an End of Year Recap where members discussed the accomplishments made this year and recommendations for future board members. I addressed the need for improved communication efforts at the systemwide level and for CSSA issues in general. While it is understandable that this virtual setting is more difficult to navigate, some important

information appears to be a miss for those campuses that lack representation. Sacramento State prioritized these advocacy needs and has the resources to hire staff members, like me, who report on the issues discussed at CSSA. However, other smaller campuses are largely disadvantaged in this area. For this reason, CSSA needs to increase their efforts to communicate and reach all campuses regarding our advocacy efforts.

### Legislative Affairs Committee

At the last Legislative Affairs meeting, we voted on five state bill and one federal bill. The following is a list of all bills, a summary of the discussion and the respective position we took:

#### *AB 2881 Public Post-Secondary Education Student and Dependent Children – Support*

This bill would require a priority enrollment system for student with dependents and impose a state-mandated program called the California Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children to support student with dependents.

#### *AB 2810 Student Nutrition: Cal Fresh Student Eligibility: FAFSA – Support*

This bill addresses student food, housing, and other basic needs by requiring CSU and Community College campuses (CCC) to notify students of their eligibility for Cal Fresh benefits. To achieve this, the bill would ensure colleges have thorough communication with state and federal financial aid services as well as databases on student eligibility for a number of programs. For this bill, Sacramento State brought up the concern of ensuring we do not overwhelm the already overburden system with the new students that will have access to the Cal Fresh program.

#### *AB 2437 California Pay Our Interns Program – Support*

This bill would create a \$5 million fund to grant stipends to students and recent graduates participating in unpaid Legislative and Executive branch internships. Additionally, it would add 150 relocation assistance stipends to applicants relocating to Sacramento to work at the Capitol.

#### *AB 1968 Public Post-Secondary Education: Uniform Informational Guidance for Sexual Assault Survivors – Support*

This bill would require the CSU to develop contents and standards on its campus internet website that guides next steps following a sexual assault incident. While Sacramento State supports this bill, I question how this uniform structure will come to be when all campuses have different resources and amounts of local support available to them. This issue will be brought up to the author's office.

*SB 1141 Public Post-Secondary Education: Exemption from Payment of Nonresident Tuition – Support*

This bill expands eligibility for the exemption from paying nonresident tuition at post-secondary institutions, regardless of citizenship status. This will be achieved by reducing the number of years required to qualify for the exemption, from three to two, in full-time attendance of California school or community college credits.

*H.R. Degrees not Debt Act of 2022 – Support*

This federal bill aims to establish state-federal partnerships to provide students the opportunity to attain higher education at in-State public institutions of higher education without debt.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee had two information items and one action item: May 2022 Financial Statement, Spring 2022 Student Involvement and Representation Fee (SIRF) and the 2022-2023 Budget Presentation. The May Financial Statement most notably addressed that as of April 29 2022, CSSA has used 49% (\$962,869) of the funds for 2022-2023. Next, the Spring 2022 SIRF presentation displayed all campuses revenue from SIRF and highlighted those campuses who showed a decrease in SIRF funds. Sacramento State had a 3.4% of opt out compared to last year with a 3.3% opt out rate. This resulted in a decrease of \$894 from Sac State alone. This can be due to increase of student opting out of this fee or from a decrease of students enrolled this past year. Lastly, the 2022-2023 Budget Presentation reviewed all revenue and expenditure items for next year. The most significant changes for next year's budget include a 3% salary increase for staff, a \$9,000 increase in Scholarship funds, and no funds allocated for reserves this year. All the money next year will be utilized for the betterment of CSSA advocacy efforts. This action item passed unanimously.

Board of Directors #2

The second Board of Director's meeting, members took action on 9 items and heard a presentation from President Alferos on the 2022-2023 Review. The 2022-2023 Plenary Calendar, Budget, and Constitution with amendments presented last month was approved unanimously. Additionally, the six bills supported by the Legislative Affairs Committee also passed unanimously. Next, this year's CIVIC Winners were awarded as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> Place – CSU Channel Islands and Northridge

2<sup>nd</sup> Place – CSU Sacramento and East Bay

3<sup>rd</sup> Place – CSU Monterey Bay and Bakersfield



Lastly, President Alferos provided a summary of all 2021-2022 accomplishments, ordinary committee highlights, student participation opportunities, and transition material for next year's board. CSSA secured \$4225,000 in grants, supported 20 state bills, co-sponsored one bill, and supported one federal bill. This year's board also worked hard to institute a new 8-month fellowship at the Chancellor's Office for graduating seniors interested in advocating for higher education legislation. This will be a project that next year's board will aim to continue.

To our current board members, it was a pleasure working with you all this year and I wish you luck on all your future endeavors, and to Sacramento students at large, I hope to see you all in the fall. Please reach out if you have any questions regarding my Pleanry report and good luck on finals!

Best,

**Karina Arroyo | CSSA Liaison**

**Associated Students Inc.**